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CRITICAL REVIEW.

For SEPTEMBER, 1786.

*State Papers, collected by Edward Earl of Clarendon. Vol. III.
Folio. 2l. 2s. large Paper. 1l. 7s. small Paper. Cadell.*

WE have now the pleasure to behold this great and expensive work brought to a conclusion; nor can we announce such an event without acknowledging the liberality of the Clarendon delegates, who, by the munificent application of their revenues, on the present as on many other occasions, have evinced their laudable attention to the interests of learning.

The volume now before us makes its appearance after a longer interval than the preceding; but the causes of the delay are satisfactorily explained by the editor, Dr. Monkhouse, of Queen's College, Oxford, whose industry, perseverance, and attention, through so laborious an employment, deserves to be applauded.

It appears that Dr. Scrope, the editor of the second volume, finding himself unable to complete the work, on account of the state of his health, and his engagements at a distance from the University, returned the unpublished Papers in 1775; having made considerable progress in digesting the materials for the present volume. After some interval, Dr. Monkhouse was appointed to the arduous office of editor; which, having undertaken, it was his earnest desire to perform the task with as much diligence as might be consistent with a suitable attention to proper selection and arrangement. He had scarcely entered upon his office, when the present bishop of Salisbury conveyed intelligence that Mr. Richards, who lived in his neighbourhood, was in possession of some original papers, which he conceived might be a valuable accession to the present volume, then preparing for the press. Upon examination they appeared to be a part of lord Clarendon's correspondence, and to have been casually detached from the great mass of his lordship's manuscripts, which had been procured by Mr. Powney from Mr. Richards' father. It was, therefore,

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fore, judged necessary to attempt the re-union of the two collections; and we are informed that Dr. Radcliffe's trustees, with their usual liberality, purchased, and sent them to the editor. But the completion of this negotiation was not effected until August, 1780, soon after which period another similar discovery again interrupted the progress of the work.

Dr. Douglas, residentiary of St. Paul's, had received information that William Man Godschall, esq. of Aldbury, in the county of Surry, was possessed of no inconsiderable number of original letters of lord Clarendon; and the editor was requested to wait upon him, and to make farther enquiry on the subject. Mr. Godschall, very obligingly, offered the university the use of the letters, and promised to select them from his other papers, with as much dispatch as his engagements would permit. In the course of the year 1781, two hundred and twenty letters, all in the hand-writing of lord Clarendon, were transmitted by Mr. Godschall to Dr. Douglas, who lent his assistance by arranging them, and drawing up a schedule of their contents. In 1782 they were sent to the editor, who, as it was absolutely necessary that they should be all transcribed, directed this to be performed with all possible dispatch.

When Dr. Monkhouse proceeded to the collation of these papers with those of coincident dates, already in his possession, he found that a great part of the labour which Dr. Scrope and himself had taken, in transcribing and arranging articles for this volume, must be entirely laid aside. It appeared, that Mr. Godschall's contribution, extending from 1649 to 1657, besides supplying some deficiencies within the period of the second volume, contained a far more connected and authentic account of all the transactions within the four or five first years, reserved for the present publication, than the editor could have extracted from his former materials. The fresh labours which unavoidably attended a new arrangement, prevented the work from being put to the press until 1783; and of the editor's diligence, during that period, the size of the volume affords undubitable testimony.

So much for the history of the present volume, with respect to which the learned editor is not only absolved from every suspicion of delay in the discharge of his office, but entitled to the warmest acknowledgements for his unwearied application. With what judgement his labours have been directed, will best appear from a cursory detail of the various circumstances which were the rule of his conduct. In deciding upon the selection, it occurred to him, that he could not adopt a safer rule, than, whenever he found himself possessed (as he frequently did) of many letters addressed to lord Clarendon,
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from the same places, and of the same dates, to fix upon such of them as came from the most confidential correspondents, or conveyed the most authentic and important intelligence. With regard to such passages as he has left unpublished, he informs us, that he exerted the utmost circumspection not to omit any article that seemed necessary to connect the chain of business which forms the subject of the letters, to convey a just picture of the times, and to illustrate the merits or demerits of the persons then upon the stage.

By the valuable collection of papers, which have been generously furnished to the editor, and by the judicious selection which he has made, the world is now in possession of more complete documents respecting various transactions in the last century, than have hitherto ever been published. In the volume now before us, it will be found, in particular, that no small additional light is thrown on the history of the Restoration.

‘ That great event, indeed (says the editor), could not but be looked for, long before it was in any visible or known train of taking place; and, accordingly, we shall find lord Clarendon in his correspondence with secretary Nicholas, now published, frequently comforting his desponding friend with the prospect of better times; founding this presage on the conceived impossibility of forming a regular and durable fabric, with such incoherent materials, as were employed in constructing the new commonwealth. But though the general principle, from which this great change in England originated, required no elucidation, the particular modes of its operation still remained to be developed. Lord Clarendon himself has not sufficiently done this in his *History of the Rebellion*; indeed he could not do it; for we find him, as is remarked by Dr. Scrope [in his Preface to the second volume], lamenting that he had finished his work as far as he was able, without the supply of those materials which were fit to be enquired into. This supply, which could not follow his lordship into France (during his unmerited exile), that he might be enabled to finish his history to his own liking, has fortunately been preserved, for the information of the present age; and that part of his immense collection of papers, which more immediately relates to the Restoration, constitutes a very considerable share of the contents of this volume. The gradual unfolding, and silent, but sure, progress of the causes that operated toward the re-establishment of monarchy; the characters and views; the public professions and private intrigues of the principal actors in this great scene of history; the frequent production of new and unexpected personages, when the happy conclusion begins to unveil itself; and the notices given of the exact periods, when particular denominations of men, and individuals of every denomination, wearied out with the complicated confusions and distresses, in which they had involved

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them.

themselves and their country, recovered their loyalty with their sober senses, and feeling that they had only gained slavery while they pursued fanciful schemes of freedom, stepped forward to assist in the renovation of that excellent form of government, which they had so ignorantly contributed to overturn; these and various other topics will be most satisfactorily exhibited in the following sheets.'

We shall now proceed to lay before our readers some of the most remarkable papers, in their chronological order.

The following letter, dated from Madrid, the 19th of October, 1650, affords strong proof of the rectitude and good dispositions of the author.

' Sir Edward Hyde to Secretary Nicholas.

' Dear Mr. Secretary.

' I assure you I am not more troubled for the intolerable necessity my wife is in, (though it almost breaks by heart), than that your wants are increased by your friendship to me, and by the great debt I owe you; yet I hope, if there be truth and honour in this people, I shall shortly be able to pay you a part, and to relieve her, for they promise us money, but they are a wretched people, without honour or courage, and I doubt not but their friends, the parliament, will use them accordingly. I know no other counsel to give you, than by the grace of God I mean to follow myself, which is to submit to God's pleasure and judgment upon me, and to starve really and literally with the comfort of having endeavoured to avoid it by all honest courses, and rather to bear it than do any thing contrary to my duty. Compounding is a thing I do not understand, nor how a man can do it to serve ones life. We must play out the game with that courage as becomes gamesters, who were first engaged by conscience against all motives and temptations of interest, and be glad to let the world know, that we were carried on only by conscience. Heretofore the title offices, and the good opinion we had with our masters, might be thought our motives; and with a king, and in his company, mere moral considerations would make men suffer much. Now we are without offices, and (for ought appears) made incapable of any, and without any avowed favour from the king, we must be the more precise and punctual in all that we do, that we may convince all men, that no temptation can make us decline the severe principles we have professed. When our sufferings are at the highest they cannot last long; I will make all the haste I can possibly from hence, that you may see how I will behave myself.

' I pray advise me how you dispose yourself, that is, in what corner you mean to live, and whether if there should be intire peace in France, you do not think that a cheaper country than where you are? I do not project any thing more than to be your neighbour in any condition; for I believe we should be some comfort to one another.

' I have

‘ I have no more to say to you at present, but to assure you I shall, in all conditions, how unuseful soever, be faithfully, and unalterably

‘ Dear Mr. Secretary, your own, &c.

‘ Madrid, October 19th, 1650.’

The envy, hatred, and calumny, which prevailed among those who attended the court of Charles II. in his exile, are mentioned in terms expressive of the greatest anxiety, by the same excellent person, in several of the letters, amongst which is the subsequent.

‘ I know not what to say to those factions and distempers which you say are reported to be amongst us here, the report is too true, but to apply remedies to it is above my skill; so universal a licence and appetite to envy, malice, and all uncharitableness, can hardly be suppressed without another kind of power than can be exercised in the dominions of a foreign prince, and where no proportionable punishment can be applied to any offence. Oh! Mr. secretary, this last act of the king’s, in making Mr. Crofts a gentleman of the bedchamber, so contrary to what he assured me, makes me mad and weary of my life, as not knowing hereafter how to be confident of any thing. Upon my word I desire nothing so much as honestly, to get into a corner to enjoy my wife and children, and to say my prayers and study, for I shall never be able to indure this kind of life. I tell you in the most intire confidence, (for it is only known to the king, the marquis of Ormond, and sir Edward Hyde, and therefore you must not speak to any soul of it) that the king hath designed sir Edward Hyde for ambassador to Holland, when it shall be time, and really, I think he will do more service there than any where else.’

The following short letter, from sir Edward Hyde to Mr. Belins, presents us with a new anecdote, relative to Oliver Cromwell.

‘ Sir, We are at a dead calm for all manner of intelligence from all places. Cromwell no doubt is very busy in the trying-house, but very silent upon the stage. They are without question upon a deep consultation for some new title, and in their whispers there is one mentioned; *Oliverus maximus Insularum Britannicarum Imperator augustus*. The people of all sorts rail at him, and he governs and contemns them. Harrison is already forgotten, and totally laid aside. The same portion is bequeathed to Ludlow in Ireland, who is tamely cashiered. Nathaniel Fiennes is made chancellor of Ireland; and they doubt not to plant that kingdom without opposition; and truly if we can get it again, we shall find difficulties removed, which a virtuous prince and more innocent times could never have compassed. I am very heartily

‘ Paris, May 29, 1654.

‘ Sir, Yours, &c.’

Lord Clarendon’s integrity appears clearly, from the whole of his correspondence; and in the letter immediately sub-

joined, we meet with a specimen of his political address, as a statesman.

‘ Sir Edward Hyde to the Marquis of Ormond.

‘ I have not heard a word from any of you since you went, which I hoped I might have done by this last post, and a man would imagine, by what the resident hath wrote very briefly to me, that some other information had been sent to me, but it hath not come to my hands. I hear you have now like to have some hand in the treaty, and therefore I conclude that both of you, or at least one, is like to be at hand when this letter arrives: and you will excuse me for guessing that the main matter to be treated, will be the interest of the Levellers. If it be so, and you come to confer with the party himself, you will omit no dexterity of handling him; and if any thing happens to be proposed of such an extravagant nature as you cannot tell what to reply to, you shall do best to persuade him to be willing to confer himself with your master, whose answer in many cases will be more valuable to them than what you can say formally on his behalf in writing. He will put them in mind that, if they do not intend a conjunction with the royal party, he can expect little good from them; if they do, the terms must not be such as may abate the alacrity, or lessen the ability of those to serve them: and he will make such particular promises to particular men of advantage to themselves, as shall go farther than any general concessions to their satisfaction. You cannot extol the privileges of Magna Charta too much, nor make too ample promises for the confirmation of them; magnify the power of free parliaments as much as they, and attribute as much to them: when they are obstinate to insist on any unreasonable proposition that you find necessary to consent to, let it be with this clause, if a free parliament shall think fit to ask the same of his majesty: and let that clause with an *if* be rather inserted to several unreasonable propositions, than one general clause consented to, of settling such and such things in such a manner as a parliament shall advise, which is more derogatory to the dignity of the king: thus you will oblige them to particular undertakings in time. This is all I can trouble you with, being unable to say more with the great torment I am in, and which I have endured since I saw you, yet I cannot but tell you that the party you heard landed in Zealand, and came for Breda, though I do not hear he is or hath been in that place, is undoubtedly in those parts; and it is fit there should be an eye upon him. God keep you and him upon whom you depend.

‘ Cologne, March 17th, 1655-6.’

For the gratification of our readers, we shall present them with the following Letter from the king to sir Edward Hyde, as a specimen of his majesty’s correspondence.

‘ The King to Sir Edward Hyde.

‘ I have yours of the first by the Dr. who came hither on Friday last, and am glad to find you have so much hope that the money

money the duke of Newberg solicits, will be so soon paid. I hope it may go a great way in discharging my family from Cologne. I can give you little account as yet of what money I am to expect from France, not having received the account from my lord Jermyn; by the next post I expect it.

‘ I have at last, upon my brother’s importunity, permitted him to come, but withal I have advised him to order the matter so as to be sure his furniture be here before him, my house being totally unfurnished, and no possibility of fitting it in this place. You did very well in giving Mr. Sandes the good counsel not to come hither, you may assure him I take the offer he made every whit as well as if he had come.

‘ I am sorry at this present to tell you, and I ask your wife’s pardon for it, that it is most necessary for you to make as much haste as your gouty feet will give you leave to me, for many more reasons than are fit to be set down here, your absence has been already inconvenient to me, and it does increase to be so every day more, and if it had not been for the consideration of my lady, I had not permitted you to have played the truant so long. I would you were besh-t for not letting me have a copy of your book of inscriptions, subscriptions, and superscriptions, for the want of it has made us speak ill of your person, when our intentions were good enough towards it, and if by chance my lord lieutenant had not kept a letter that was intended for the arch-duke, I could not now have written to Don Juan, who looks to be treated in the same stile, and, therefore, if you are to part in the afternoon, let your book set forth in the morning, that I be no more inconvenienced nor you no more cursed for the want of it. I bid my lord lieutenant answer all the other particulars of your letters. I have one thing to recommend principally to yourself, which is the getting, if it be possible, a set of coach horses, which at this present I had rather have than so much ready money.

‘ Bruges, May 7th, 1656.’

The subsequent Letter, from the duke of York to the king, and which is an original, is written in terms of the greatest loyalty and affection.

‘ The Duke of York to the King.

‘ Sir, This is the first time that I have had any need to make an apology to your majesty, having concurred absolutely and implicitly hitherto in all your commands and desires; and if some violent persons had not induced your majesty to press that upon me that was never proposed to any body else, I had still remained without the necessity of any; nevertheless I beseech your majesty to believe, that though they be able to disturb my peace, they shall never shake my zeal and affection to your person and service, nor hinder me from sacrificing all interest but that of my honour to you majesty, and I hope you will excuse me if I am somewhat tender therein, since I have little else

left, and that without it I shall never be able to be of use and service to your majesty, which is the greatest ambition I have in the world; and whatever ill men shall tell you to the contrary, I can and do assure your majesty, that as I have the honour to be the first, so I have affected nothing more than the glory of being the best of your subjects; and God that knows my heart, discerns that if I had never so many lives I would throw them all at your majesty's feet, as I do myself, begging that you would believe me to be what I truly am

‘ Jan. 8, 1656. Sir, Your Majesty's most obedient
Brother and most humble
Subject and Servant,

JAMES.’

By a letter from Oliver Cromwell to cardinal Mazarine, it appears that they were employed in a scheme of sowing dissension between two brothers. The objects of this plot are not mentioned, but there is the strongest reason to conclude, from some expressions in the letter, and from a subsequent paper, entitled, ‘Duke of York's Instructions for Mr. Blague’, that the persons alluded to were the king and the duke of York. To the secret machinations of Cromwell must likewise be imputed the diabolical design of assassinating his majesty, of which the following anomalous Letter affords evidence.

‘Advertisements concerning an Intent of killing the King.

‘Sir, I am assured by very good hands that, besides others, these persons I now name are employed in Flanders as spies, and give intelligence hither of your affairs. Sir Lionel Talmash and his lady, Ballough Drummond a Scotchman who lately went over into France with Lockhart's wife, and is now gone into Flanders; Aprice Williams a Herefordshire man, who sometimes was servant to the late king in the office of the ———. There are besides these, divers employed from hence to destroy your majesty's person, as Cecill who was engaged in Syndercombe's business, and with him one Clarke, and two more, whose names I know not; but one of these is honest, and gives his intelligence to my friend. Besides there is one Esq; Downes, and Mr. William Huntington, these two are English. George Williamson, George Muckall, these two are Scotchmen; they all have bills of exchange to receive six score pounds a man; they all went from hence on Tuesday or Wednesday was sevensnight, having all good horses given them. The way they have designed to kill your majesty is when you are in the field near the French army, they will then attempt your person; and by the swiftness of their horses, doubt not to gain the French quarters. It may be they will assay other ways, but this is the likeliest they have yet designed; but I hope God will protect your majesty, and defeat all traitors.

May, 1657.’

The great pecuniary necessities of the unfortunate Charles appear from a Letter to his sister, about the same period.

‘ The King to the Princess Royal.

‘ I write now to you upon a business which I think I never writ to you before upon in my life, and I never was more unwilling to do it than now: it is of money, of which I believe you are not much better provided than myself, yet I cannot but tell you, that I am like within a few days to have a good occasion offered me, upon which, if I can lay hold, I may lay a foundation to compass all my business, and truly if I am not able I may feel the inconvenience long. I know you are without money, and cannot very easily borrow it, at least upon so little warning; but if you will send me any jewel that I may pawn for 1500*l.* sterling, I do promise you, you shall have the jewel again in your hands before Christmas, and I shall be able to make a journey, that I think will do my business. This is only between you and me, and I do not desire it should be known to any body else; and if you think I may pass through the States dominions incognito, without giving them offence, I can take some such place in my way as I may conveniently see you. Let me know your mind as soon as may be.’

The following Letter, from the marquis of Ormond, giving an account of the duke of Monmouth and his mother, cannot fail of being agreeable to our readers, as it places that disputed point of history in a proper light.

‘ The Marquis of Ormond to Mr. Mottet,

‘ Sir, I have shewed the king your’s of the 6th to me; and upon it he commands me to let you know, that he takes your proceeding in the business of Mrs. Barlow very kindly, being well satisfied that what you have done, was out of your care of any part he might have in it; he is pleased to acknowledge that he gave order to sir Athur Slingsby in a quiet and silent way, if it could be to get the child out of the mother’s hands, with purposes of advantage to them both, but he never understood it should be attempted with that noise and scandal that hath happened; and to this purpose I think his Majesty hath written to my lord ambassador. His majesty persists in his desire to have the child delivered into such hands as he shall appoint, and will take himself to be much obliged to you if by your means it may be effected, either by disposing my lord ambassador to interpose his power in it, or by any other way you shall find more proper; besides the obligation it will be to the king, it will also be a great charity to the child, and in the conclusion to the mother, if she shall now at length retire herself to such a way of living as may redeem in some measure the reproach her past ways has brought upon her. If she consents not to this, she will add to all her former follies a most unnatural one in reference to her child, who by her obstinacy will be exposed to all the misery and reproach that must attend her,
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when neither of them is any further cared for, or owned by his majesty; but that on the contrary he will take any good office done to her as an injury to him, and as a supporting of her in her mad disobedience to his pleasure. In this case it ought to be considered, whether she should not be compelled to be good to herself, at least to be restrained from ruining her innocent child, that she may not make a property of him to support herself in those wild and disgraceful courses she hath taken; and whether the condition of the parties concerned, does not so far difference this from other cases, that the king may not reasonably pretend to a more than ordinary compliance with his desires: the conclusion of all is, that if his majesty can have the child disposed of according to his direction, it will much content and oblige him; and the mother will find her account in it, if her future deportment be as it ought; if not, he will free himself the best he may from any further trouble or scandal, and leave her to her fortune; and so, Sir, I remain

‘Bruges, this 10th of Dec. 1657.’ Your’s, &c.

The subsequent Letter presents us with some characteristic traits of R. Cromwell, not entirely conformable to the general idea suggested of him by historians.

‘Mr. Hancock (Broderick) to the Lord Chancellor Hyde.

‘Sir, The government by rotation is a chimera, and can never take effect: sir H. Vane grows more suspected than ever to the other party; his desire to go ambassador for Holland, was in order to the coalition I formerly mentioned, with some hopes, had he been plenipotentiary, to have made himself a kind of stadtholder at his return. The design of the house (who more eagerly desired to send him) was, as he said himself, an honourable exile, for they would have joined two others (opposite in tenets), his fellow commissioners. St. John was importuned to go, but refused, and useth great diligence to prevent a second offer. B. Throgmorton being yesterday at Whitehall, R. Cromwell fell into a great commendation of himself, and the government of the three nations under him in a golden mediocrity, between a topping head and a filthy tail; a dialect peculiar to himself, not without some pleasant dreams of being reinvested, when the commonwealths men and optimates had sufficiently vexed each other, and grown weary of that vexation. If it pleases God to bless my honest endeavours, I shall prove a fortunate, as well as a faithful, and obedient servant.

‘July, 8th 1658.’

In our next Review, we shall lay before our readers some farther extracts from this valuable collection of State Papers, which, independently of the light they throw on the transactions and characters of those times, prove highly interesting to curiosity.

The Holy Bible. Containing the Books of the Old and New Testament, and the Apocrypha. Carefully printed from the First Edition (compared with others) of the present Translation, with Notes. By the Right Reverend Father in God, Thomas Wilson, D. D. Lord Bishop of Sodor and Man. And various Renderings collected from other Translations. By the Rev. Clement Crutwell, the Editor. In Three Volumes. 4to. 4l. 14s. 6d. Dilly.

THE character of the late excellent bishop Wilson is well known, and the short eulogium bestowed upon him by Dr. Johnson, were there no other written testimony of his virtues, would alone give him a distinguished place in the history of the church, and transmit his memory to distant ages. 'To think of bishop Wilson with veneration (says the doctor), is but to agree with the whole Christian World.' The editor of the work before us, who seems to have had full opportunity of furnishing himself with the knowledge of facts, informs us, that it was the daily custom of this venerable bishop to read a portion of the holy scriptures in his family, and to write down his occasional observations in the margin of his Bible. Hence it was, that in the course of this daily practice, during a long life (and he was fifty-six years the resident bishop of Sodor and Man), a multitude of miscellaneous notes were set down; some of which were critical and explanatory, and others in the style of practical piety and devotion.

This Bible, a little before the death of the late Dr. Thomas Wilson, the bishop's only son, being examined with a view to more general use, the doctor was encouraged in his idea of bringing it into public notice as a book that (in the state in which the doctor left it) might prove highly beneficial to readers of different classes. The Rev. Mr. Crutwell was appointed to conduct the revision, and publication of the work, with a handsome gratuity for his trouble; and the profits arising from publishing this edition by subscription, were given 'for the benefit of the widows and children of clergymen in the counties of Chester and Lancaster, and the Isle of Man:' a plan of benevolence which we are happy to see has been aided by a very numerous list of subscribers.

Mr. Crutwell seems to have engaged in this business with a laudable zeal for securing the principal objects of the undertaking; and, in addition to the first idea of simply publishing the common translation of the Bible, with bishop Wilson's notes, several valuable and interesting improvements were brought

brought into the plan. And indeed those additions are so copious, as necessarily to have increased the size of the work to three large closely printed quarto volumes, which might otherwise have been very well comprised in two of a smaller size.

From a work so disposed as the present one, in which the whole of a large quarto page has an uniform connection of all its parts, it is hardly possible to extract an adequate specimen of the performance. But to our nonsubscribing readers, some account of it will be acceptable.

The text of the common translation is given verbatim, on a clear and handsome type, the whole breadth of the page. The heads of the chapters are divided into parts, and placed on the outer margin of the leaf, against those portions of the text to which they refer; which is certainly a conspicuous and useful arrangement. The numeric figures to the verses, which are commonly inserted at the beginning of a line to the left hand, our editor has inserted in this work, on the inner margin, without interrupting the text; which prevents unnecessary breaks, and vacancies in the page; gives it uniformity of appearance, and renders the natural and proper connection of the periods more familiar to the reader; but this advantage is gained without losing the bounds of the common division of verses, which, as every word beginning a verse in the common Bible, be it of what part of speech soever, is here made to begin with a capital letter; and the numerical figure always standing against the line, the reader may easily observe as he proceeds, the beginnings and terminations of the verses. The references to similar and relative texts, which are very numerous, and which on that account could not have been easily inserted in the margin, are disposed in lines across the page, immediately under the text, with the parts of which they are connected by the letters of the alphabet. Under these references, a portion of the page becomes divided into two columns, and forms a department for the *various renderings*, drawn from a large number of translations and versions of the Bible; which is a part of the plan that must have cost Mr. Crutwell great pains. The Bibles which he has collated for this purpose are the following:—COVERDALE, MATTHEW, BECKE, CRANMER, GENEVA, BISHOPS, DOWAY, PURVER;

For some parts of the Old Testament,	
PENTATEUCH,	- Dr. Ainsworth.
JOB,	- Mr. Broughton.
PSALMS,	- Dr. Ainsworth.
PROVERBS,	- Dr. Hunt.

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ECCLESIASTES,	Mr. Broughton.
SOLOMON'S SONG,	Dr. Ainsworth.
ISAIAH, - -	Bishop Lowth.
JEREMIAH, - -	Mr. Blaney.
LAMENTATIONS,	Mr. Broughton and Mr. Blaney.
DANIEL, - -	Mr. Broughton.

• In the Apocrypha (says Mr. Crutwell), king James's and the Geneva translations have in every book followed the Greek, whilst the others generally have followed the Latin copy; so that the renderings are,

1. ESDRAS, Geneva, Bishops.
 2. ESDRAS (only found in the Latin), Coverdale, Matthew, Becke, Cranmer, Bishops, Geneva, Doway.
- TOBIT, JUDITH, and ESTHER, Geneva only.
 WISDOM, Coverdale, Matthew, Becke, Cranmer, Bishops, Geneva, new edition of Doway.
 ECCLESIASTICUS, Geneva only.
 BARUCH, to the end, Coverdale, Matthew, &c.

For the whole of the New Testament,

• Wiclif, Coverdale, Cranmer, Becke, Cranmer, Bishops, Geneva, Thomson and Broughton (when they differ from the Geneva), Rhemish, Whiston, Wesley, Purver, with the commentators, Hammond, Whitby, and Dodderidge; to which may be added, the names of Udal, for the Gospels of St. Matthew, Luke, John, and the Acts; of Key, for Mark; of Coverdale for Romans, &c. to Galatians; and Olde for Ephesians, to the end; but these and the whole, as printed with the paraphrase of Erasmus, are so little different from the translation in archbishop Cranmer's Bible, that, except in the Gospels, their differences from that translation only are noticed.

• It was at first intended (says our editor) to introduce the renderings of translators only, not of commentators; but when the proposed translations were finished, and time left, as was thought sufficient, the three commentators, Hammond, Whitby, and Doddridge were added to the list.

Thus far we thought a transcript from the editor's very explanatory and suitable preface, might be acceptable to many of our readers.

Under the title of *Various Renderings* are inserted every material variation of phrase, and almost every verbal difference from our common translation, in all the aforesaid numerous authorities. This plan, performed with accuracy, as we have no reason to doubt it is, cannot but prove highly useful and agreeable to biblical students, as it unites the advantages of all those

those volumes, and brings their *various renderings*, without the trouble of research, into one point of view.

Lastly, On a different type, and across the whole page, are placed the notes of bishop Wilson. In these, from the pious character of the author, the devout reader may hope to find much useful and familiar elucidation. And in this respect we trust he will not be disappointed. These notes must have been written at different periods of his life; perhaps also in different states of his mind, and without any view to publication. Hence it may be that we have found in them some inequality; in general they are plain, pious, rational, and instructive; but better calculated to answer the views of the devout Christian than of the curious critic or sceptic philosopher.

From this representation of the plan, our readers may be led to expect a very crowded page; but this is not the case, as the different size and excellence of the type, in the several departments, gives a variety of appearance, and a relief to the eye, which is very pleasing; and this effect is undoubtedly heightened by the superior quality of the paper. C.

The editor, in his Preface, has given a succinct biographical account of the principal English translators and commentators of the Old and New Testament. This part of his labour being neither uninteresting nor useless, we shall make some extracts from it in a future article; in which we will also produce a specimen of bishop Wilson's notes.

Sermons on various Subjects, and preached on several Occasions. By the late Rev. Thomas Franklin, D. D. Chaplain in Ordinary to his Majesty, &c. In Two Volumes. 8vo. 10s. 6d. in Boards. Cadell.

THE character of the late Dr. Franklin is too well known and established to need any encomium. To say he was an elegant scholar, a judicious critic, and an ingenious translator, is no more than is strictly due to him. In the province of preacher he was justly celebrated; we mean, he had in this respect as much popularity as was perhaps consistent with the reputation of real abilities. For, since every ranting enthusiast who addresses himself wholly to the imagination or the passions, though with ever so little elegance or skill, never fails to obtain the suffrages of the multitude, much affectation of popular celebrity in the pulpit is become rather an unsound title to genuine applause. If the reformation of the world was found in any proportionable degree to accompany these ostentatious

tatious pretensions, we should be far from depreciating them; but experience seems not to countenance the supposition of the rational and sober practice of religion being furthered by the boisterous and inflammatory manner of our modern church-declainers. If they have not conduced more to that false appearance of religion, by which the artful and hypocritical impose on the simple and unwary, than to a quiet, unaffected, and benevolent conduct, according to the pure morality of the gospel, the world may have greater obligations to them than our own observation will suffer us readily to allow. But to carry these reflections no farther, we believe, that the fame of the late Dr. Franklin, as a preacher, is such as the most sincere and judicious of his surviving friends may cherish without a blush.

Among the various publications of this respectable author, none reflect more credit on his talents, or are more calculated to do service to mankind than the compositions before us. Although they have not much pretension to original genius, there is an order and perspicuity in the arrangement of the matter, with an elegance and propriety in the language, characteristically free from all affectation, which does great honour to the doctor's abilities. There are no novelties of phrase, few instances of labour, antithesis, or flowers of rhetoric; but a certain smoothness, simplicity, and earnest strain of piety, running through them all, unite to render them most pleasingly instructive discourses. The several subjects, on which they are written, are as follow:

Vol. I. On the History of Joseph, in four parts. 5. On Human Nature. 6. On the advantages of Affliction. 7. On a Wounded Spirit. 8. On the Pleasantness of Religion. 9. On the Poor in Spirit. 10. On the Blessedness of those that mourn. 11. On Universal Benevolence. 12. On Friendship. 13. On Thanksgiving. 14. On the unsearchable Ways of God, for Trinity Sunday. 15. On the Coming of Christ. 16. On the Fast Day, Feb. 21, 1781. 17. On the Parable of the Sower.—Vol. II. 18. On the Parable of the Tares. 19. On Dives and Lazarus. 20. On the Parable of the Prodigal Son. 21. On the Parable of the Marriage Supper. 22. On the Death of the Righteous. 23. On the New Year. 24. On Numbering our Days. 25. On Assiduity. 26. On Evil-speaking. 27. On Anger. 28. On Forgiveness. 29. On the Benevolent Spirit of Christianity. 30. On the Vanity of Human Wisdom. 31. On Retirement. 32. On Angels. 33. On Riches. 34. On Disquietude.

An obvious equality in the merit of these discourses, renders it difficult to determine from which of them to produce

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a specimen. Will the reader accept an extract from Sermon 27, upon Anger?

' Anger always destroys our own peace and tranquillity. As the angry man cannot possibly impart pleasure to the breasts of others, so he is utterly incapable of feeling it in his own: a certain degree of tranquillity is indispensably necessary towards the enjoyment of every human happiness. He who is tossed to and fro by the violence of the tempest, will scarce be delighted by the beauty of the prospect; and the man who is consumed by a fever, will give but little attention to the sumptuousness of the apartment where he lies, or the elegance of the furniture which surrounds him; and in the same manner, it is impossible that the angry man should partake of the pleasures of society, because his mind is never sufficiently at leisure to enjoy it; his soul, even when the violence of passion is appeased, resembles the ocean after a storm; it is a long time before the waves subside; it is still, as the prophet says, like the troubled sea, whose waters cast up mire and dirt; there is no peace to the angry and wicked.

' As a quiet and easy disposition therefore is its own reward, so an angry and unquiet one is its own punishment.

' But moreover, the angry man can never be confided in as a friend; but, as the son of Sirach says, anger separateth friends, because passion will betray every secret; forget every benefit; remember every injury; spy out every fault; and be blind to every virtue.

' The angry man will never be sought after or admitted as a companion, because his wit, if he has any, will often be soured by ill-nature; his judgment warped by passion; his good-breeding totally lost and swallowed up by resentment. He who is of a disposition to be angry, will never be at a loss for an occasion to be so; because the least trifle will enflame, and the least opposition will enrage him. His conversation therefore, instead of recommending, will only prejudice him; and the qualities which would make another amiable, will only render him odious and detestable: the faults of men generally leave a stronger impression than their virtues; and what the angry man has spoke in the warmth of passion, will be remembered when every thing else that he has said shall be forgotten.

' But what is most peculiarly observable of this passion is, that it hath a kind of supernatural and magic power, which converts us as it were into creatures of another nature. Observe the courteous and polite man when inflamed with anger; where is the affability which endeared; where is the good-breeding which recommended him? His civility is changed
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in a moment into rudeness, and all the sweetness of his manners degenerated into savageness and brutality; every word is an oath, and every sentence are proof; so that the amiable companion is no longer seen, and the kind and affectionate friend is no longer known to you. Observe the mild and good-natured man, when passion over-rules and overtakes him; his benevolence is changed into rancour; his love and tenderness into spleen and malignity; his eyes, which once softened into tears at the distresses of his fellow-creatures, shall sparkle with unusual joy at their calamity: that shall fill his heart with pleasure, which used to create pain; and he is even miserable himself, because he cannot make others unhappy.

‘Observe the learned, the sensible, the wise man when angry; observe him who pretends to be master of all his passions, how totally and absolutely he is subdued by one. His ideas, which he had taken so much pains to range in order, are on a sudden all confused and displaced; passion clouds over the intellectual beams of his understanding, impairs his faculties, and, like the veil of night, buries all his perfections in one inseparable mass of darkness and oblivion. His learning will at that time only furnish him perhaps with additional matter of abuse; and his knowledge, if any remains, but adds fuel to his malice, or administers force to his revenge.

‘If we are any of us then subject to this passion, we are not to flatter ourselves that wisdom or knowledge will secure us from the ill effects of it, because we see it has the extraordinary power to alter the very natures and dispositions of those whom it attacks: and thus, though it came into the breast of a wise man, may even without changing its habitation, rest in the bosom of a fool.’

It gives us pleasure to see prefixed to the collection a respectable and pretty numerous list of subscribers; and we hope the circulation of these Sermons will long continue to further the benevolent purpose of the subscription.

Historical Memoirs of the Irish Bards. By Joseph C. Walker, Member of the Royal Irish Academy. 4to. 7s. Robinsons.

OPENING the book at the wrong end, our attention was arrested by the Irish melodies, and the following observations naturally occurred; that, if the poetry of the bards was no better than their music, the world would suffer no great loss if both were consigned to utter oblivion. We are aware of the difficulty of reducing wild, and, in the true sense of the word, artless melodies, to regular measure; yet, where there are accents, they ought to be placed on the accented

parts of the bar, and where the same passage is repeated, the repetition must necessarily fall on the same parts of the bar. Though these tunes, even as wild Irish ones, are much beneath criticism, and may be said to escape it, 'for nonsense is neither true nor false;' yet, bad as they are, they are made worse by being written down by one unequal to the task. The airs marked N^o 2. 3. 4. and 5. seem to have been the same tune originally, but varied, shortened, or lengthened, as it was adapted to different words, and performed by different bards. Why the author chose to give these miserable specimens of Irish melody, and none of the pretty tunes which have been considered as Irish, we know not, unless he doubts the authenticity of the latter. Instead of the wretched thing which he calls Carolan's Devotion, it would have been more for the credit of the bard, if he had given us some of the tunes which are attributed to Carolan. These are, of their kind, exquisitely beautiful, and, whether the composition of Carolan or of any other musician, in all probability were made for the harp, as they have no notes but for the open strings of that instrument—Let us now begin the book at the right end. The author tells us, in his Preface,

'I trust I am offering to my countrymen an acceptable present: the gift has novelty, at least, to recommend it. Though Ireland has been long famed for its poetry and music, these subjects have never yet been treated of historically. I do not pretend to have done completely, what has lain so long undone: no doubt many sources of information still remain unopened, and many documents unconsulted. However, I have marked out a path which may facilitate the pursuit of those who shall hereafter follow me.'

If any person should follow this path, we earnestly request him to get on with as much haste as good speed will admit of, and not constantly stop to observe and explain every leaf of shamrock that may grow beside it. Instead of wanting sources of information, the author seems to have pressed all ancient and modern poets, as well as historians, into his service: he has made his book disagreeable to read, by his frequent quotations, and frequently needless references.

It cannot be expected, that we should enter into the controversy relating to the ancient state of Ireland. If it was, like every other country, barbarous in its infancy, no authentic records of its history can exist. If this kingdom had attained to civilization so early as some contend, the proofs of it must have been more unequivocal. Without troubling the reader with histories of people, and characters which perhaps never existed, we will give the Irish account of some heroes,

heroes, which, whether they ever existed or not, have of late very much claimed the public attention. We shall preserve those notes, which relate to Mr. Macpherson's account, to contrast the different stories of the historians of rival nations.

‘ Let us now turn to Fin, the brightest ornament of Cormac's court, and the pride of Irish heroes *. This great commander was son of Cumhal, who was lineally descended from Niah Neacht, king of Leinster. His exploits, and the victories obtained by the Fiann (or militia) which he commanded, are recorded by so many of our historians, and so often sung by our bards, that it is not necessary we should, nor indeed is it our business to enlarge on them here. However, there is one circumstance in his life which we will take leave to mention. Cormac, at the head of the Fian, and attended by our hero, sailed into that part of North Britain which lies opposite to Ireland, where he planted a colony of Scots (the name which the Irish then bore), as an establishment for Carbry Riada, his cousin-german. This infant colony, which the Irish monarch fostered with the solicitude of a parent, was often protected from the oppressive power of the Romans, by detachments from the Fian, under the command of Fin, occasionally stationed in the circumjacent country. Hence the claim of the Scots to Fin, whom one of their writers has dignified with the title of “king of woody Morven:” and hence the many traditional tales concerning him and his militia, which are still current on the western coast of Scotland †.

‘ The ceremony, which (if Mr. Macpherson is to be credited) was used by Fin when he prepared for an expedition, strongly marks the manners of these gloomy times. A Filea, at midnight, went to “the hall of shells,” (where the tribes feasted on solemn occasions), raised the war song, and thrice called the spirits of their deceased ancestors to come “on their clouds,” to behold the actions of their children. He then hung a shield on a tree, striking it at times, with the blunt end of a spear and singing the war song between. Thus he did for three successive nights. In the mean time, messengers were dispatched to summon together the several tribes ‡.

* * Though Cucullen flourished about 200 years before the reign of Cormac, Mr. Macpherson has made him cotemporary with Fin, whom he calls Fingal.

† If, therefore, we may reason from a part to the whole, it is just to conclude, that all the songs preserved in the Highlands, relative to the Fingalians, are also Irish. They are wholly confined to the Western coast of the Highlands, opposite Ireland, and the very traditions of the country themselves, acknowledge the Fingalians to be originally Irish.” Hill's *Ancient Erse Poems*. See also Mr. Pinkerton's elegant and ingenious *Essay on the origin of Scottish Poetry*, (p. 43.) prefixed to his valuable collection of *Ancient Scottish poems*.

‡ Note on *Temora*. B. 4. This poem in a few years swelled from a small fragment into a large epic poem of six books. Vide *Ossian's poems*, in quarto, (published in 1762), and in two vols. octavo, published in 1773.

‘ Fin fell, A. D. 294, in an engagement at Rathbrea, on the banks of the river Boyne, near Duleek *. In consequence of this event, the name of Rathbrea was changed into that of Killeen, or Cill Fhin, that is, the burying-place of Fin. Fin’s death was immediately followed by the dissolution of the Fian.

‘ Our hero was sometimes called Fin Almhain, from his palace which stood at Almhain (or Allen), in the county of Kildare †. He was not deficient in any accomplishment of his time : but he was pre-eminent in poetry and music ; arts of which none of the Fiann were allowed to be ignorant. In a poetical dialogue between Oisín and St. Patrick, (which was probably the production of a bard of the middle ages), we find Oisín thus extolling the vocal powers of his father :—“ When Fin sat upon a hill, and sung a tune to our heroes, which would enchant the multitude to sleep : O ! how much sweeter was it than thy hymns.”—Fin was twice married. His first wife Graine ‡, a daughter of Cormac, intrigued with Dermid one of his subordinate officers, in consequence of which he repudiated her, and wedded her sister Aibbhe. By these wives he had several children, the most celebrated of whom was

‘ Oisín, an intrepid hero, and one of the most eminent poets of his age. To this great man several fugitive pieces of Irish and Erse poetry have been attributed § : but only a few fragments of his works, and those much mutilated and ill authenticated, have come down to us. Indeed had his productions reached us in a state of original perfection, our best Irish scho-

‘ • O’Connor.—The manner of Fin’s death is variously related. In the annals of Innis-fallen, it is said, he was slain at Rathbrea (to which place he had retired) by the stroke of the gaff of Athlach Dubdrein, a fisherman. On this occasion an ancient poet wrote the following lines :

‘ Resolv’d in peace to spend his future days,
Retir’d from labour, and in tranquil ease :
No more with toils the forest to beset,
No more for war his heroic arms to whet.
But thus intent a quiet life to lead,
False Athleach Duddrein’s son did him behead,
Thus fell the famous warlike hero Fion,
His mother Murin’s darling, favourite son.

‘ The foregoing lines are preserved in the annals of Innis-fallen. The version which I have given of them, was taken from a translation of that valuable work now preparing for the press by a young gentleman of this city.

‘ † Mr. Macpherson always changes Almhain into Albain, that is, Scotland : for m and b are commutable in the Gaelic or Ibero-Celtic language, a circumstance of which he takes advantage.

‘ ‡ Mr. Macpherson, who exerts an arbitrary power over names, has changed Graine into Roserana, in the translation of an elegant little poem on the loves of that amorous lady and Fin, which he attributes to Colgan, chief bard to Cormac.

‘ § Since the order of the bards has ceased, says Mr. Smith, almost all the ancient Gaelic poems are ascribed to Ossian.”

Iars would have found much difficulty in translating them. For there are many passages in Irish poems, of the fifth and sixth centuries, which seem at present, and probably ever will remain, inexplicable. Yet, we are told, that the poems of Oisín are recited and sung, at this day, by ignorant Scottish hinds, though the characters of the language in which they were composed, are as unintelligible to the modern Scots, as the hieroglyphics of the Egyptians.

At this distant period it is impossible to ascertain the time of Oisín's birth, or the part of Ireland in which he was born: and it is equally impossible to ascertain the place of his residence, for the life of a military man is erratic. But it is certain, that in the county of Donegal there is "a cloud cap" mountain called Alt Offoin, around which (according to a learned writer) is the whole scenery so finely described by Mr. Macpherson in his Oisín's Poems: and to the northward of Lough-Derg are the mountains, caverns, and lakes of Fin*. Here the peasant as he hies to his field—the images impressed on his youthful mind, being awakened by the scenes around him—"hums to himself the tale of other times;" and, should he unexpectedly hear the soft tread of an approaching foot, or a rustling amidst the bushes, he starts, and tremblingly turns around, expecting to behold the airy form of some Finian hero. In an extract made by Camden, from an account of the manners of the native Irish, in the 16th century, "they think (says the author) the souls of the deceased are in communion with the famous men of those places, of whom they retain many stories and sonnets; as of the giants Fin Mac-Huyle, Osker-Mac-Oshin, or Oshin-Mac-Owin; and they say, through illusion, that they often see them."

As we are unwilling to omit any information on a subject, which those, who are best able to elucidate, endeavour anxiously to obscure, we shall extract the following passage.

A young lady, on whose veracity I have the firmest reliance, informed me that her father had a labourer, who was in possession of two volumes of Irish MS. poems, which, in her infancy, she often heard him read to a rustic audience in her father's fields. The bold imagery, and marvellous air of these poems, so captivated her youthful fancy, that they remained for some years strongly impressed on her memory. When Mr. Macpherson's Oisín's poems were put into her hands, she was surprised to find in them her favourite Irish tales, decked with meretricious ornaments; and her blustering heroes Fin, Con, Cuchullin, &c. so polished in their manners. In the poem of Carthon, (with the original of which she had been particularly

* Collect. de Rebus Hib. No. 12. pref. p. 96. With all due deference to my learned friend, I will take leave to observe, that the whole scenery of Macpherson's poems cannot be immediately around Alt Offoin, as the scenes of many of his heroes' battles lay in Scotland.

delighted) she thinks Mr. Macpherson kept very close to his original; but she can only discover faint traces of the other tales here and there in his Epic Poems. What pity that those precious volumes are irrecoverably lost!—at least to this kingdom. Since the literary curiosity of my fair informant was awakened, she has made several vain enquiries for them.—Perhaps they were picked up by some Scotch gleaner of Irish poems,—for such persons have been seen in this kingdom.

In the Appendix, is the life of Carolan, the chief of the Irish modern bards, who, according to our author, was a better composer than performer, and a better poet than musician. Of the tunes, which are called his, we have already given our opinion; but simple melodies are not compositions. If the song of ‘Bumper Squire Jones’ is as good in Irish as Mr. Dawson has made it in English, it is a proof and a shining one, of the bard’s abilities in this species of poetry. As the following song has some merit, and is not so well known, we shall insert it.

‘ With delight I will sing of the maid,
Who in beauty and wit doth excel;
My Gracey, the fairest, shall lead,
And from beauties shall bear off the belle,
Beside her, by day and by night,
No care and no sorrow I’ll know,
But I’ll think on her form with delight,
And her ringlets that beautifully flow.
Her neck to the swan’s I’ll compare,
Her face to the brightness of day;
And is he not blest who shall share
In the beauties her bosom display?
Your wit is uncommonly drest,
Your eyes shed a lustre most rare;
But what I like, and all like the best,
Is that bosom which shines thro’ your hair.
Tis thus the fair maid I commend,
Whose words are than music more sweet;
No bliss can on woman attend,
But with thee, dearest Gracey, we meet.
Your beauties should still be by song,
But my glass I devote now to thee:
May the health that I wish thee be long,
And if sick,—be it love-sick for me.’

A Treatise upon Gout, in which the primitive Cause of that Disease and likewise of Gravel is clearly ascertained; and an easy Method recommended, by which both may be with Certainty prevented, or radically cured. Small 8vo. 2s. 6d. Cadell.

THIS author steps forward, without a name, without a patron, requesting to be judged by the merit of his work,
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and disdaining all assistance but what may be acquired by his own deserts, in the estimation of candid and equitable judges. We have examined his treatise with care, and shall speak of it 'as it is:' we at least pretend both to candour and equity.

From the gouty depositions, our author supposes the matter which causes the disease to be of a calcareous nature; and, with proper restrictions, he thinks this cause will not only explain the appearances, but connect the remote causes with the symptoms, and justify those methods of prevention which experience has dictated, and success established. It is supposed, that this matter abounds in the constitution of gouty people, carried into the system by the medium of an acid; and from thence are explained how acids operate in inducing gouty paroxysms, and the effects of the acidity with which gouty stomachs generally abound. This acid is afterwards said to be separated by the volatile alkali, generated in the constitution by the animal process. On this system we must decide with caution: let us attend to what our author says of his judges.

It is natural for an author to consider with himself in what manner his book will be received by the world. It is probable, that the present treatise will attract, in a considerable degree, the attention of the faculty, and of the afflicted. From people of the latter distinction it will meet with much kindness: they will pay court to it as to their dearest friend and their best adviser. By the faculty it will be variously treated: the more enlightened, whose minds are above the meanness of envy and jealousy, will judge of it by its merits, and decide upon it with impartiality; but its reception from others will be of a very different nature. At first they will resist the system in toto, *vi et armis*: every principle that is laid down will be combated as futile or absurd; the conclusions that are drawn will be considered as preposterous; and the evil tendency of the whole will be clearly pointed out. In the end, however, prejudice will give way to conviction, and error must yield to the powerful energy of truth. When the facts that are stated can no longer be denied, the mode of attack will be changed. Some wiseacres, with that accurate discrimination between causes and effects which has distinguished our medical authors, will contend, that calcareous earth in the fluids is not the cause but the consequence of gout. Others will seize upon different ground: they will prove, to a demonstration, by the means of mangled quotations and half-sentences, that the doctrine is not new, but that it has been the prevailing opinion since the age of Hippocrates, that the disposition to this disease proceeded from such earth in the fluids. In the same

manner it has been proved, that the use of the absorbents was well known long before the period of Dr. Hunter. The littleness of such creatures is sufficiently punished by the general contempt which it can never escape.

The foundation of the system before us is, that the depositions are calcareous, and that they are critical discharges to relieve the constitution. Let us first examine the latter position. We are very confident in asserting that these concretions are not common in the early fits, and only appear when the constitution is broken and decayed: in other words, when the crisis is most complete, when the constitution appears entirely free, no deposition is found in the joints; but it occurs in the debilitated state, when the paroxysm is not completely terminated, and when successive fits leave the period doubtful where one begins and the other ends. There is one fact which the author has not noticed, and which seems, at first, to establish his position: when the calcareous matter has collected, so as to force its way through the skin, and to escape from the system by a painful sore, the gouty paroxysms are less frequent and violent. This change is, in reality, owing to the discharge, not of calcareous, but purulent matter; and it is evidently so, because we can supersede its necessity by an artificial drain, not from the joint, but from the interstices of the neighbouring muscles: the relief is equally certain, though no calcareous matter appears in this new drain. We are well aware of the uncertainty of medical facts, particularly those which relate to the gout; but this we have so frequently experienced, that we can entertain very little doubt of it.

It is a gratuitous supposition to assert, that calcareous earth may have been deposited in the early fits, though no deposition appear: if it does not appear the source of relief when it is deposited, we have no reason to suspect it to have been critical when it is not found. The effects of gout, in youthful strong constitutions, are a weakness, and afterwards a little rigidity of the ligament of the joints affected.

It is more certain, that our author's first position is not well founded. Gouty calculi are not calcareous: they are an earthy salt with a calcareous basis, and the phosphoric acid. If the calcareous earth is carried into the system by the medium of the acid of the stomach, which is known to be a weak vegetable acid, it is equally certain that there is no separate volatile alkali in the blood to decompose it. The animal salt is already a neutral, and though of the ammoniacal kind, yet not capable of separating the component parts of an acetated lime. We cannot enter on the proofs of these chemical facts; but we must refer to the proper authors, and will rest our credit with the public on the events of the trials.

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The author of this theory connects the causes of gout and gravel, we believe, with great propriety; but we fear his system will receive little support from the coalition. The calculus contains some calcareous earth, but the proportion is very small: it is so little, that Scheele overlooked it, and Bergman rather supposes the earth to be calcareous than positively affirms it. The constituent parts seem to be an animal earth, in small proportion, a gelatinous substance, with fixed air: the animal earth is probably a phosphorated lime; but we should not look for the cause of a disease in the smallest part of a discharge, which at the same time is so far from critical, that it is rather a symptom. We must refer to our last month's *Intelligence* for Berthollet's opinion, supported by some chemical experiments on the urine. If our author's positions were well founded, they might be brought nearer together than our readers would at first apprehend, since the calcareous earth may be rendered soluble in our fluids by phosphoric acid in excess: the acid may, therefore, be supposed to have been retained, in order to clear the vessels of this excess of earth. But in fact we see no appearance of calculi, except in secreted fluids; and it is highly probable that they only occur in these, in consequence of crystallization, for which they are adapted by their union with an acid, and which is assisted by the effusion of coagulable matter, that forms a nucleus.

If we examine our author's arguments, we shall not find them very strong. We can assert that no earthy salt has been found in blood, and no detached volatile alkali to separate the ingredients: it is more clear, that no separate calcareous earth is found in it.

When the author connects his system with the more remote causes of gout, we suspect that he is frequently in an error. Women, he says, are not equally subject to it with men, because they do not weaken the stomach by hard drinking: he forgets that, from other causes, they are more subject to acid in the stomach. Cyder-drinkers, he asserts, are subject to the gout: he has not examined this subject; their peculiar diseases are colic and rheumatism. Drinkers of hard water are supposed to be in the same predicament: this fact is also not true; and our author, if he had had the full assistance of his positions, need not have required it; for the volatile alkali, when pure, will not precipitate lime from vitriolic acid; and we are not told how it acquires fixed air. Ale-drinkers are subject to gout; and this our author explains from the tartar of ale, a substance which it does not contain. The effects of claret in inducing gout are explained from its acid quality.

Good claret is not, however, acid; and the French, who make it their common drink, are not subject to gout. If we examine farther, we shall find that they make a greater use of vegetables than we do; but this fact also opposes our author's system.

We regret that we have been obliged to speak so peremptorily, in many parts of this article; but we were induced, by the author's candour, not to condemn him unheard. Our assertions are facts, generally admitted; and, if they are proved to be erroneous, the author will gain a degree of credit proportioned to our mistakes. On these, we must both stand or fall. Our author seems to have had a partial, but, in some circumstances, an incorrect view of the subject. He has seen the connexion between a weak, consequently an acid stomach, and the gout; but he has attributed too much to the acid, as a chemical principle, and too little to the weakness, as a constitutional debility. Where his facts apply, they will be found to meet those whose operation he seems to have mistaken, in this point. Thus the ale-drinker is subject to gout and stone; not in consequence of the tartar, which does not exist, but in consequence of its debilitating power, from an excess of stimulus. The claret-drinker, not from the acidity of his beverage, for, except in the impending fit, he can drink it with impunity; but in consequence of its want of stimulus to support the constitution, bending under the approaching disease.

We need not enlarge on our author's advice to prevent the gout. He gives just cautions against the too long use of bitters, and with propriety recommends antacids. We think, however, that he urges the use of alkalines too far: some acidity seems necessary to the constitution; and when imprudently destroyed, the absence of acid may become the cause of cachexy, or perhaps of other diseases. In the operation of some parts of his diet we think too that he is mistaken, particularly relating to concentrated solutions of sugar in fruit pies, which he thinks are not so hurtful as weaker solutions of it in the juices of ripe fruits. In other respects, he confounds every acid, without seeming aware of the tonic effects of the mineral acids.

The language of this little work frequently resembles Mr. Hunter's. The author often speaks of the constitution's 'being susceptible of a stimulus—of one disease destroying another—of parts of the body being apt to take on an unnatural mode of action,' &c. We must now take leave of the work; we have given so much of its substance, that we may leave it to the judgment of our readers. The system does not meet what we conceive to be the history of the disease and the nature of its

causes;

causes; but it must be left to future experience to decide. In the mean time, the language of this little work, and many parts of the reasoning, are not such as its author may be ashamed to disavow.

Sketches of the History of the Austrian Netherlands. By James Shaw. 8vo. 5s. Robinsons.

THE perpetual hurry of the emperor's motions, the vast projects which are said to engage his attention, and the constant labour of the mountain, whose productions have hitherto been little proportioned to its parturient groans, render every part of his dominions an object of public attention. The Austrian Netherlands have, however, an intrinsic merit, which calls for the care of a native historian, whose zeal, equalled by his sources of information, might elucidate both their civil and literary history. Early emerging from the barbarity of the northern part of Europe, they furnished philosophers, historians, and painters, to nations who knew little more of each science than the name. These are confessedly 'Sketches': the earlier history is, in many respects an imperfect one; but so much entertainment, so much useful information is scattered through the pages before us, that we soon are blind to their defects, if those may be styled defects which are almost inseparable from the author's plan.

Mr. Shaw describes the Netherlands, and gives a general view of their history, since the age of Charlemagne. The political constitutions of each province, in some measure, vary; but he describes the constitution of Brabant, and occasionally mentions the differences which occur in the political structure of the other states. The shining part of the history of the Netherlands is that period, when many separate provinces were united, under the dominion of the house of Burgundy, when their union, added to their vigour, gave them a weight in the scales of Europe, which they probably can never again attain, without, as in their present situation, they are united to a mighty empire. It must be understood, that the dominions of the house of Burgundy contained many provinces now joined to the French monarchy, and commonly called the French Netherlands.

The commerce of the Austrian part of this country, which had been destroyed by the jealousy of Holland, began again to flourish during the misfortunes of its neighbours in the last war. Though these promising appearances have lessened, yet Mr. Shaw observes that they have not wholly vanished. This is undoubtedly true; but, unless the troubles in Holland
assist

assist the Flemings more than the vast efforts of the emperor, their commerce will not be very considerable. The author forfeits the respect we should have paid to his abilities in this line, by mentioning the advantages of the India trade, from the port of Trieste, under the dominions of the same sovereign. The free navigation of the Scheldt inconsiderately demanded, and disgracefully given up, can only restore the splendor of their ancient commerce. This they may probably at last owe to the divisions of their monopolizing enemies.

The manufactures, the cities, and the agriculture of the Flemings, are well described. The neighbouring states, and their influence on the Netherlands, share with great propriety Mr. Shaw's attention. Their religion, the next subject, is also judiciously examined. The circumstances attending the suppression of the monasteries, in the Netherlands, have not been before related with so much accuracy: we shall select a part of our author's account of this transaction. It is also a favourable specimen of Mr. Shaw's moderation and good sense.

‘ The sovereign has seen the disadvantages resulting to his states from the multitude of religious houses; and the veneration in which the monastic order has been so long held, has not restrained him from applying a remedy, by suppressing a part of the convents. The sense of the states of the provinces has agreed in this matter with the sense of the sovereign, and in Brabant the imperial edicts have been subscribed by the council of Brabant. Of the religious houses founded in the Austrian provinces, a great number, as well in the cities as in the country, are now dissolved. The rigid order of the Carthusians, most reclusive, and most abstracted from the world, has been entirely suppressed. The other convents that are dissolved have been taken indiscriminately among the other orders—Cistercians or Augustines, followers of St. Bernard or of St. Clara. The Carmelites, an order introduced by Albert and Isabella, and which traces back its origin to Mount Carmel in Palestine, have not obtained indulgence. The solitary hermits have been called to forsake their woods and rocks, and mingle with men.

‘ This great reformation has been accomplished quietly, and without resistance. The voice of reason, long suppressed by false religion, has at length been heard; and the dissolution of monasteries, that in the sixteenth century could not be compassed in England without tumult and rebellion, is in this age effected in a catholic country without violence or opposition. A just lenity has been observed in this reform; and whilst the religious, whose convents have been dissolved, are invited to enter into the world, monasteries are open for the reception of those among them, who, wedded to the monastic life, chuse to pass the remainder of their days in those observances to which
they

they have been long accustomed. The religious of both sexes have for the most part entered again into the world. The nuns of the Carmelite order, more attached to their profession, have passed into France, where the princess Louisa, a daughter of France, has embraced that rigid order. Neither has the wealth of the suppressed convents been squandered away, as in England, by a profuse prince, or lavished on rapacious favourites. A part of the estates of the dissolved monasteries is set apart for the support of the religious who enter into the world, and for whom decent pensions are provided: the remainder is destined for public works beneficial to the state, of which some have been already marked out.

The suppression is neither general, nor are the religious houses suppressed either the most opulent, or the most numerous. We ought not to reject the following observations: the sentiments are just and enlightened; the language easy and elegant.

‘ Whilst high applause is due to the sovereign, who by the suppression of convents has rendered so great service to his states and to human kind, yet justice requires, that the merits of the religious orders in these lands should not be entirely forgotten. Let it be remembered, that the monks gave the first lessons of agriculture in this country, and that the rude wastes of Flanders were converted into fruitful fields by the labour of holy men. If too large a share of the lands has been allotted to convents and monasteries, yet let it be remarked, that the wealth of the religious houses has been employed chiefly in hospitable acts, in the encouragement of elegant arts, and in the construction of edifices that have adorned the country; whilst the farmer has found in the fathers of the convent, whose lands he rented, humane and indulgent landlords. The leisure of the cloister has not always been wasted in indolence: among the monks in this country have been found men that were eminent in arts or letters; and the abbots here, as formerly in England, have stood forth the advocates of the liberty of the people. It may be added also, that the lives of the religious have been for the most part without scandal, an example of severe virtue; and that if unwilling captives have been detained within the convent-walls, victims to the pride of families, yet sometimes the unhappy have found a suitable retreat in these mansions of prayer and meditation. This praise may be bestowed on monachism before its final departure from these regions.’

The literary history of the Netherlands, and the present state of their literature, is not unknown, so that we shall not enlarge on it. Mr. Shaw next engages in a more extensive detail of the misfortunes of Jacoba countess of Hainault, and the ambitious designs of Charles the Bold, duke of Burgundy, with their consequences; evils that vaulting ambition, which

which o'erleaps itself, very certainly experiences. The Netherlands regained somewhat of their credit in the reign of Albert and Isabella; but it was the mild splendor of peace, rather than the blaze of conquest and triumph. In war the archduke was unfortunate; in his other pursuits he was successful: his subjects were happy; his kingdom well cultivated; peace smiled on this region, and humanity looked on with complacency. It was the triumph of literature and the arts, debased only by an object superstition.

Mr. Shaw then examines, whether, on the whole, it would be more advantageous for the Netherlands to form an independent state than to be a part of a mighty empire. He lays down the arguments on each side, without determining the question. In the present state of European politics, we think that they could not long exist as an independent nation, without a protector; and what a protector is, let Geneva tell. The conclusion is chiefly an eulogium on Joseph the Second. On the whole, we have been much pleased and informed by this work; and we can safely recommend Mr. Shaw, as an agreeable intelligent guide to the more voluminous works on this subject.

Observations on the Nature, Kinds, Causes, and Prevention of Insanity, Lunacy, or Madnefs. By Thomas Arnold, M. D. Vol. II. 8vo. 7s. Robinsons.

DR. Arnold has now completed his intended Observations, on a subject whose importance is the greater, since it comprehends the most distressing and most humiliating malady to which human nature is ever subjected. To our account of the first volume we must refer, to render this article sufficiently clear*. In the preface, Dr. Arnold addresses his readers with propriety, and a guarded decorum; but, as we differed from him in many points relating to the first volume, it cannot be expected that we can agree in the account which he gives of its reception, or relate it with equal complacency.

I am happy to learn, that the first volume has been thought, by men of great respectability in the medical profession, to deserve attention. Of this I am certain, that the greatest part of it is the result of experience, and founded upon actual observation.

It is necessary, however, to remark, that in every public account of his work, and every incidental quotation from it, authors have not differed greatly from us; nor can we per-

* See vol. liii. p. 21.

ceive how a work, compiled from almost every source, from authors whose credulity was unbounded, and whose credit has of course been often impeached, can be styled the result of experience, and founded on actual observation. We ought not to suspect the author of equivocation in this passage, or to suggest that it is the experience and observation of others rather than his own; but it would be more extraordinary that, in any situation, he should have had an opportunity of bringing every author's observation to the test of an actual trial.—Again,

“Some few, I understand, have objected to it, that I have extended the boundaries of insanity too far; and have either not at all, or not sufficiently, distinguished it from mere vice, and folly; from the moral insanity of the Stoics. If I have really confounded them, it was not my intention. I thought I had abundantly guarded against the possibility of such a mistake. There are very few definitions in the whole book, which were not drawn up from examples of actual cases of insanity, which had fallen under my own inspection. And, indeed, after a careful review of all that I have said upon the subject, I cannot but persuade myself, that the persons who have made the objection, would not have made it, had they attended sufficiently to the whole tenor of the work.”

We must not a second time review the first volume; and can only allege, that if we could not perceive the tenor of the work, it did not arise from a want of attention, or an eagerness to blame. Some other parts of our remarks are answered, casually, without notice, and some of the deficiencies we suggested are supplied. The second volume is more perfect as a compilation, less deformed by useless digressions, more clear, connected, and instructive than the first. From this circumstance it appears that we did perceive the tenor of it more perfectly than the author chuses to allow; and, if we want farther proofs of what we alleged concerning the inutility, either of the general division, or of the very numerous species, distinguished in the former volume, by laboured definitions, we may mention the very slight use made of this formidable apparatus, and the very partial application of it to the prevention of insanity. With respect to the cure, we there hinted, that the definitions were probably useless; and, in this we are supported by the opinion of Dr. Cullen, to whom this objection is attributed. We must still continue to think so, till the application is pointed out more clearly.

If this work had appeared in its own colours: if Dr. Arnold had published it as an extensive and an useful compilation, we should have commended his accuracy and industry. Many valuable materials, scattered in numerous volumes, and
some

some uncommon ones, are collected into one focus; the anatomical dissections are compiled with care, and delivered in an advantageous manner; the remote causes are carefully detailed, and, in many instances, properly connected with the dissections. In truth, we think Dr. Arnold has, in these respects, been usefully employed; and we think well both of his judgment and his temper, in taking hints, even from the observations which seemed, on the whole, to have displeased him. They were indeed intended for his advantage, though perhaps the mirth, which arose from seeing him raised on stilts, was somewhat misplaced. — We shall give a short account of the contents of this second volume.

We have mentioned the anatomical dissections, which are collected from the confused mass of Bonatus, and the more clear and intelligible relations of Morgagni. Dr. Arnold's observations, on the defects of each, are both pointed and proper: he concludes the subject by adding Haller's general account, from the *Elementa Physiologiæ*. We must add to our author's recommendation our sincere wish, that, in the dissection of maniacs, anatomists would not attend solely and exclusively to the state of the brain. This organ is certainly affected, in many instances, from a previous affection of other parts: it is equally true, that the topical affections, which can be traced by the knife, are sometimes effects of a previous disease, in a different part. It is a question of some consequence, whether the mind is, in any instance, primarily affected, without a disease of the body; or whether, what are styled by our author, mental causes, do not operate first on the corporeal system. Dr. Arnold, by tracing the mental causes from the state of the elastic fluid of the nerves, seems to think, that cases of the purely mental kind really exist: but, when we reflect on the state of those who are affected by long study, or any other cause peculiar to the mind, we shall always perceive some previous hypochondriacal affection, some injury done to the digestive powers, and perhaps some disease of the organs subservient to that function. It is always necessary to keep this object in view; for medicine will produce some change on the body, while a mere affection of the mind is beyond our reach. We must, at the same time allow, that a mental disease, produced by a bodily change, may exist afterwards, as a pure mental affection, though the disease of the body is removed. We have an instance of this kind in paralytic complaints. Palsy, from compression, in consequence of effusion or hemorrhage, will leave the mind weak and spirits feeble; will impair the memory, weaken the recollection, disturb the usual train of ideas, and almost destroy the judgment, though every symptom

symptom leads us to believe, and dissection confirms the opinion, that effusion or even distention had been removed.

Dr. Arnold first treats of the causes seated in the brain and its appendages, which are either changes in its substance, indurated glands, tumors, effusions of various fluids, enlargement of the vessels, diseases of the membranes, or any other cause of compression or irritation. Of the external causes, which operate mechanically, he mentions exostoses, depressions of the skull, smallness of the head, and swellings in the neck. He is less correct when, with these, he arranges concussions of the brain, and the effects of hot sun. These certainly act on the fluid of the nerves, in a way with which we are little acquainted, but probably not in a mechanical manner.

The causes which affect the body in general, are either fevers, with local determinations, heat, either of climate or produced by exercise, and depressing powers of every kind. The next set of causes are those which operate on the neighbouring parts, and affect the brain secondarily, by changing the balance of circulation, or perhaps, by inducing irritations which are communicated to that organ. To this head are referred all the narcotic poisons and repelled evacuations. The mental causes are either intense study and application, passions of different kinds, too active an imagination, or a mind naturally weak. The two last may be rather styled predisposing causes. These several causes Dr. Arnold examines particularly, and points out their effects with precision, but in a manner somewhat prolix. We formerly observed, that his general system was that of Hartley. We shall now transcribe his opinion of the union of the soul and body: our readers will perceive it is not very unlike the pre-established harmony of Leibnitz.

‘But, whatever be the nature of the nervous power, if we allow the soul to be an immaterial substance, as philosophers have very generally thought they had the best, and surest, ground for believing it to be, — in which, according to Cicero, there is nothing that can give it any material property whatever, — it seems highly probable, that the body and soul, a material and immaterial substance, cannot physically act upon each other; and that their mutual effects are produced according to certain fixed and arbitrary laws of reciprocal influence, by which, and by which only, they were united to each other at first by the great creator of the universe: — that, therefore, it cannot with such strict propriety be said that they act upon each other; as that certain states, and movements, of the body, are the exciting, or occasional causes, of certain determinate feelings, and volitions, of the mind; and that certain feelings, and volitions, of the mind, are in like manner the exciting, or occasional causes, of certain corresponding states, and move-

ments, of the body. It is our business to discover what these states and movements, and their corresponding feelings and volitions, or, in other words, what these laws of union are. And it is with this view, that I have here attempted to point out, though it must be confessed but cursorily, and superficially, those mechanical, muscular, and vascular states of the active, and sentient parts of the body, which in a great measure correspond with, and are either the causes, or effects, of the various states of the mind; and what in general the corresponding states of the mind and body are.

Though, on the whole, Dr. Arnold examines the influence and operation of these causes with accuracy, we would not be understood to commend all his opinions. In some instances, he is certainly mistaken: in others, we think he is so; but discussion on subjects of this doubtful kind, and capable of little application, are not proper for our Journal. His opinion of the cause of sleep is of a different nature, and deserves to be noticed. He thinks that it arises from a waste of the nervous power, joined to an accumulation of blood, in the veins of the brain. The waste of the nervous power cannot be ascertained; but the accumulation is certainly chimerical. It is not supported by the appearances of impending sleep, by the feelings in the sleeping state, or by the powers, which either induce or drive it away. We mention his sentiments on this subject particularly, because they lead to some erroneous reasoning, and we suspect may be applied improperly in practice. With respect to the effects of cyder, it is acquitted, in consequence of Dr. Arnold's enquiries, of any tendency to produce madness; except from its temporary effect of intoxication. We are much inclined to the same opinion.

Dr. Arnold next proceeds to the proximate cause of madness; and, after some previous remarks, he observes,

“Of the real proximate, or physical cause, I can say but little. The attempt to discover, or to explain it, would, I fear, be fruitless. This, however, I think I may safely say, that as the nearest, and most specific causes, which we can discover, seem to be either a gradual congestion of fluids, of some kind or other, in the brain; or such a sudden determination of the circulating fluids to that organ, as produces the same effect; or any other cause of preternatural compression of the brain; so the true, and actual, proximate cause of insanity, of whatever species, is not only seated in the brain, but is such a degree of compression, or condensation, of the medullary substance of the brain,—or of that part of it, by means of which the intercourse between the mind and body, is carried on, and on whose perfect and healthful tone, or texture, or consistency, the perfection of that intercourse, and of all the mental operations, depends,—as gives rise to

to images in the brain, as if existing externally, which have either no existence in nature, or do not exist as they are at that time, or in that place, supposed to exist; or to such notions as are obviously absurd in their kind, or degree, and could only originate from an unsound state, and undue operation, of the brain. But what are the specific degrees of compression, or condensation; what are precisely the parts compressed, or condensed; how variations in these respects produce variations of insanity; and what are those variations; must, I fear, for ever remain among the deficiencies of our knowledge of these nice, and intricate, matters. There are, however, other variations, connected with the proximate causes of insanity, which are more obvious; and evidently differ in kind and degree, in the various species, and degrees of that disorder.

The latter part of this cause may be intended to give some foundation for the original distinctions, in the first volume. We would propose an amendment of the motion, to put the distinction to the proper test; and, instead of 'gives rise to images,' &c. we would read 'gives rise to madness.' We appeal to our readers, whether it be not equally satisfactory; and we can truly say, that we have not met with a better application of the original doctrine; for when the author afterwards endeavours to apply the cause to the different species, it amounts to no more, than that active inflammatory powers produce the more acute kinds, and depressing or compressing ones, the low incoherent species of madness. We wanted no peculiar illumination for this purpose.

The prevention of insanity chiefly relates to the particular causes, and the management of the patient, in what has been styled the non-naturals. He confines himself to the following views.

1. Temperance in food, drink, sleep, and the indulgence of the venereal appetite.
2. Exercise.
3. The due regulation of the passions.
4. Attention to the operations of the imagination; and care to check its propensity to too great activity.
5. An assiduous diligence in the improvement of the reasoning faculties of the mind; and a watchful avoidance of the various causes of its imbecility.
6. The careful avoidance of too long continued, too intense, and too uniform, thinking; and of excessive watching.
7. The avoidance of the other occasional causes of insanity; so far as they may, by our care and diligence, be avoided.
8. Rational views of God and religion; free from superstition, enthusiasm, or despondency; and a conscientious, and cheerful, performance, of the duties which religion prescribes.

These are nearly the outlines of the second volume: in this we meet with many useful facts, which show the diligence of the author, as well as his attention in digesting them in a proper order. We need not repeat our opinion of his work; but can only regret, that his plan did not lead him to enlarge on the use, where we could have most certainly perceived the value of his distinctions; and where, if we had differed in opinion from him, a candid discussion of our sentiments might have been equally useful and valuable. We hope it is not yet too late to recommend the continuation of the subject in another volume.

Observations on the Marine Vermes, Insects, &c. By Matthew Martin, Member of the Bath Philosophical Society. 4to. 1s. 6d. White.

The Aurelian's Vade Mecum, containing an English alphabetical, and Linnæan systematical Catalogue of Plants, affording Nourishment to Butterflies, Hawk-Moths, and Moths, in the State of Caterpillar. 12mo. 1s. White.

THESE works must be mentioned at the same time, though we must apologise for having omitted the latter, which was published in an obscure corner of the kingdom, with which we have little connection; and so far as we can recollect, was never advertised in the London papers. We now discovered it only by the advertisement on the blue cover of the 'Observations.' We must first consider the more important work, which will lead us farther than its present bulk may seem to require, since we hope it is the forerunner of observations, more numerous, and equally curious.

In an Introduction, distinguishable for a little peculiarity, both of style and sentiment, Mr. Martin endeavours to defend the writers of detached observations, who have neither the leisure for systematic arrangement, or the opportunities of completing a more extensive work. From these reflections he is emboldened to submit his fasciculi to the 'candour of the public eye.' From the imperfect state of natural history, he thinks it 'improveable even by the weak efforts of humble admirers.' Besides, our knowledge of the Vermes is not, in his opinion, 'mature for system.'

In pursuing the history of these little animals, the attention is agreeably directed to the various modes of feeding, and of breeding; from the knowledge of which we may gather hints, for guarding against the depredations, or lessening the numbers of the noxious; or for procuring, preserving,

and

and encouraging the increase, of more pleasing and inoffensive kinds.

On the former of these points, the ingenious author above named (Fabricius) has thrown a considerable light; and appears to have paid a very minute attention to the different constructions of their mouths; the characters hence derived, may be regarded amongst the most natural; and the Pygmy race are aggrandized in the idea of their being distinguishable in a manner so similar to that, by which larger animals have been already discriminated; their resemblance to which appears the stronger, in the consideration that they are also variously adapted to the habitation of earth, air, or water; and diversly endued with dispositions for rapine, or more placid life.

From some similarity of manners, we may proceed to compare certain of the spider race with lions or wolves; others of the same race which insidiously creep and spring upon their prey by surprise, with tigers; the great libellæ in the aquatic state of larva, with alligators: the same insects in the fly state, hornets, and others of the larger rapacious winged tribe, with eagles; wasps with hawks; and the ichneumon with the cuckoo.

Mr. Martin calls on all the lovers of natural history, to add to the stock of facts; and we must join in the invitation: we can assure them, that they will find it an amusing and instructive study. It will lead an enquiring mind to the most sublime speculations; and even the meanest observer may add some valuable facts. Our author has called his efforts 'feeble;' but the works before us, though slight, evince his knowledge of the subject, his judgment, and attention.

The first object of Mr. Martin's remarks is, the *actinia caryophyllus*, probably a variety of the *actinia dianthus*, described by Mr. Ellis in the Philosophical Transactions for 1767. It is called, in English, the sea anemone; and has been the subject of Spalanzani's experiments. Mr. Martin did not find the divided parts capable of reproducing what was separated. Spalanzani and the abbé Dicquemare were more successful, if we can style that success, which was obtained at the expence of the feelings of humanity. We suspect, from a slight stricture on Muller, who has sometimes enumerated distinct species as varieties, that our author is willing to consider the *actinia caryophyllus* as a species; yet these animals he recommends to farther observation.

The next animal noticed is the *siphunculus nudus*. Mr. Martin seems to think, that it discharges, like some other vermes, the relics of its food by the same passage through which it is taken in; and that the *apertura lateralis*, if per-

forated, is adapted to some other purpose. All the species that our author has seen, are very much less than those described by Rondeletius.

The third is another species of siphunculus, called by Mr. Martin, reticulatus: he suspects it to be the *S. faccatus* of Linnæus; and that Linnæus's name arose from his having only seen a preserved specimen. Though found on the coasts of Devonshire (at Teignmouth, where our author observed it), Linnæus has only described it as a Chinese animal. It is certain that the figure, in the *Amœnitates Academicæ*, resembles that before us, in every respect but the loose coat; yet Lægerstroem's remarks were very exact, and his descriptions accompanied the preparations: on the whole, we are rather tempted to think it a new species. We would recommend a more frequent examination of it at different times of the year. This worm, and the *S. nudus* should, in our author's opinion, be ranked rather among the *molusca* than the *intestina*: he puts it, however, in the modest form of a quare.

The plate which accompanies this fasciculus is clear, distinct, and accurate. The conclusion relates to the antennæ of insects, which Mr. Martin thinks communicate vibrations of air or smells; and that their great variety may furnish some good characters for the better division of this class. There is one part of this work so well executed, that we would particularly recommend it. It is the best specimen of English nomenclatura on this subject that we have seen. We mean the best translations of Linnæus's definitions.

The Aurelian's Vade Mecum contains, under each Linnæan species, a very correct catalogue of the animals which inhabit it. The names of the plants are in English, and, in a second catalogue, the Linnæan names refer to the English ones in the first. The English appellations both of plants and insects are well chosen. The Preface is modest and judicious. As another specimen of our author's manner, we shall transcribe a few sentences: the ladies must reply for themselves. Perhaps they may not be fond of such very tranquil placid amusements, except for a short variety.

Observe, ladies, I mean to include you also in this address; I feel a strong desire of inviting you to participate in pleasures easily attained and enjoyed with tranquillity; in delights congenial with that refinement of taste and sentiment, and that pure and placid consistency of conduct which eminently adorn your lovely sex.

Such pleasures plead for a share of your regard, and may they help to sweeten your hours of solitude and anxiety.

Caroline

Caroline of Lichtfeld: translated from the French by Thomas Halcroft. Three Volumes. 8vo. 9s. sewed. Robinsons.

A Romance which differs, in its progress and its event, from the volumes which crowd and disgrace a circulating library, forms a new era in literature. To interest, and attract, it is necessary to avoid the usual trait of incident; to diversify the faces to which we have been so much accustomed to survey; at the same time, to avoid what is only uncommon, if destitute of probability or the resemblance of nature; to neglect absurd refinements, and superficial reflections.

The author of *Caroline* has started from vulgar bounds, and her narrative is natural, interesting, and in some degree new. She describes a young lady of quality, married through the ambition of her father, and the commands of her king (the late king of Prussia, who encouraged matrimony by every method except the example of living with his wife.) This young lady, *Caroline of Lichtfeld*, is married to the count of *Walstein*, whom she sees only a short time before she is given to his arms: she is disgusted with his appearance, and perceives not a soul animated by every gentle, every generous sentiment, under a form enfeebled by a late fever, deprived of an eye while engaged in the most exalted exertions of friendship, and halting from an accident, in the same noble attempt. Yet these were but temporary deformities: the lameness time restored; the rosy glow of health was afterwards recovered; and the soul, which animated the whole form, amply compensated for that partial deprivation, which, when the cause of the accident was considered, could scarcely be supposed a blemish. Her childish heart could not, however, reflect on these deformities without feeling so great a disgust, that she applied for a temporary separation on the day of their union. The generous *Walstein* perceives the cause, and agrees to grant her request. Retired in the country with a female relation, she again engages in childish pleasures, till she is roused from her indifference by a sudden and violent passion for a young officer, whom she accidentally sees. It is *Lindorf*, the friend of *Walstein*, who was rescued by him from a connexion which could have been attended only with disgrace; and who, in the rencounter which ensued, had wounded the count, in the manner already mentioned. This accident had opened his eyes, and he saw the generous, friendly conduct of *Walstein* in a proper light. As soon as he learns, that it was his friend who loved *Caroline*; that it was *Walstein*, the preserver of his own life, and of his honour, who was actually married to her, he at once leaves her, with a full relation of the former transaction, as the cause

of his deserting her. In these letters, she contemplates the true portrait of the man whom she had fled from, whom she had dreaded; she receives too a real portrait representing what he was before the accident. This restores her to herself, and she loves the husband she once hated. Lindorf, after his flight, joined Walstein, who was at his house; and Caroline's relation, when she learned the secret of the marriage, which had been concealed from her, carries her very imprudently to the castle, without her knowing the object of the journey. She sees at once Walstein and Lindorf; the conflict of contending passions deprives her of her senses; she faints away, and recovers only to feel the consuming power of a violent fever. In this interval, Lindorf escapes, and Walstein, informed of the former love of Caroline for his friend, attends her with care, generously resolving to sacrifice his own happiness to her's, and Lindorf's. This attention finishes the conquest of Caroline's tender and unexperienced heart: the anxiety she feels, on the count's silence, on a subject now so interesting, is misinterpreted by Walstein, to arise from a conflict between her duty and her love. He resolves to end it; flies to the king, and procures a divorce, at the moment when Caroline had resolved to explain the whole. She receives the bill of divorce; also a letter, in which, while he paints his love in the warmest at the same time she is informed of his departure she receives terms, he expresses his resolution to restore her to her liberty, and to the man whom he suspects to be the object of her choice. Caroline flies to him, at his own castle, and an éclaircissement ensues, which finishes their adventures.—We shall select a specimen of the author's manner from the conclusion.

Timidity is natural to youth, and especially to youth educated as Caroline had been. The superior virtues and wisdom of Walstein commanded a respect which not even the most mild benevolence could wholly obliterate. It was therefore that Caroline had been silent so long; and even now, determined as she is, she knows not what means are best, how to behave, or what to say; and the more the moment approaches, the more her embarrassment is increased. Oh! how does she regret her dear mamma, who, had she lived, would, long since, have been her faithful interpreter; the voluntary pledge of her truth and tenderness! But how might she herself explain them? Should she write?—She began, but her emotion was too great, her hand trembled, she could find no expressions that could convey her feelings; no words were adequate to her ideas; she could not frame a single phrase—"No," said she, "it will be better to go, to run to him, to throw myself into his arms, to say—Perhaps, I may not say a word, but surely he will understand my silence; surely he will not be able to look at me without imagin-

ing what I wish to say; he will pardon me, will dispel my fears; reserve, diffidence, and doubt, shall vanish all; he shall be wholly mine, and I wholly his; the happiest of wives and of women!"

The thought inflames her ardour, she kisses her little portrait to encrease her courage, and flies to the apartment of the most beloved of husbands! She enters—but no husband is there. He seems not even there to have slept!—A large trunk, in the midst of the chamber, in which are various other packets, seems to announce a removal, or a journey.—Caroline shakes from head to foot! Scarcely has she strength to ring the bell!

A footman appears; tremblingly she asks—"Where is my lord the count?"

"The footman, surprised at the question, answers, "I thought my lady had known!"

"Known, what?"

"That my lord set off betimes this morning."

"Set off!—God!—"

"William, his valet de chambre, has been up all night, making ready. He has left orders that this trunk and these packets should follow. He does not know where my lord is going, but he believes to England."

"England!—Leave me!"

Again,

The haste with which she ran, her eagerness, her sobs, all cut speech short and interrupted respiration; her head reclined on the shoulder of the count, her arms hung round his neck, and her tears fell into his bosom. Walstein was not less agitated than herself; at last, taking her in his arms and placing her on a sofa, he falls at her feet.

"Caroline!—Caroline!—Is it you Caroline!—Is it, or is it some pitying angel who has assumed your form? Can what I have heard be possible!"

"Doubt it not, doubt it not! Here, here (Caroline untied the ribband and took the portrait from her bosom) look, behold the picture I love; nay look at it well; say whose likeness it is; behold who thus entirely possesses my heart, and for whom alone I would live and die!"

"Walstein looked!—With astonishment looked!—It was he! Good God! he himself! At least such as he himself had been, and Caroline proved she still beheld him as he had been, and that, to her, he had undergone no change. True it was indeed, that he every day became more like his portrait, and that, at present, the likeness even could not be mistaken. But by what magic, what miracle could this portrait, of the existence of which the count himself was ignorant, fall into the hands of Caroline, be worn next her heart, and become the object of her dearest her tenderest caresses? He looks, he falters, he is ready to sink under the excess, and yet cannot he believe it real! It is a heavenly dream out of which he fears to awake! Few are

his words, but those few all are expressive of rapture, astonishment, and remaining doubt. As soon as passion would permit, Caroline, blushing, drew from her pocket all the letters and the manuscript which Lindorf had left her—"Take these," said she, "read, and you will know all. No more will I have any secrets from my Wallstein; they have already made me too wretched.—Yes, I loved Lindorf; at least, I had sensations that bore some resemblance to those I feel at present. What the difference is you yourself shall judge. When Lindorf left me, at Rindaw, I wept; yes, wept; and not a little; but my grief soon found alleviation, soon subsided, and soon did this small picture become dearer to my heart than Lindorf. This morning, on the contrary, I wept not, when I received the fearful sentence of separation. Not a tear escaped: but I thought either death or distraction must have been the instantaneous effect, and should you persist in that your dreadful design, it would be as though you were to say to me, Caroline I wish thee mine, and mine thou ever shalt be—Here—here is the paper! The—the divorce! Look how insignificant it is at present!"

It was torn in a thousand pieces, and Caroline cast it with indignation into the fire—Wallstein could not utter a word! He gazed, he wept, he took her hand, pressed it to his lips, to his heart—He gazed again, and exclamations, without connection, without meaning, succeeded each other. He took up his own picture, and, in his delirium, kissed it with transport! It was the sacred proof of the affection of his dear Caroline!

There is an episode which sometimes breaks the connection, and partly destroys the effect, though it is generally conducted with great skill, and more frequently relieves than distracts the attention. It is the love of Matilda for Lindorf, whose love is at last returned; and, after having surmounted some difficulties, they are married.

The moral of this pleasing tale is sufficiently obvious, and it is as useful as well as an important one. It seems designed to show, that happiness is not the consequence of a first and violent attachment: that the heart may be brought back to its duty, by reason, and the more respectable and solid qualifications may fix the esteem which shall at last draw the affections captive.

This novel is the production of a lady: we perceive that a lively imagination and a tender sensibility have influenced many passages of it; and we see, that each is governed by good sense, and an accurate knowledge of the human heart. Delicate situations are managed with address, without being weakened, or losing their power. They seldom produce any violent emotions: the principal persons rather interest than soften us: the passages which we have selected are the most
pathetic

pathetic ones in the history. The first part of the work is more simple, less ornamented, and better managed than the rest: the long story of Lindorf sometimes hangs heavy on the hands; and the young Matilda, though a lively pleasing companion, in one or two parts intrudes very improperly. Though these are errors which appear on examination; and, though the work is altogether so good as to deserve our attention in noticing them; yet they do not greatly lessen its powers of entertainment. An English reader, who has perused the trifling letters of many modern sentimental novelists, will not perhaps discover, that the epistles in *Caroline* are sometimes too long, and that the style is seldom sufficiently varied. On the whole, we must welcome this pleasing author to our island; she appears to much advantage in our dress, which the translator seems to have put on with unusual care. It is her first visit; but we hope her reception will be sufficiently flattering to induce her again to appear in another form.

The Disbanded Officer; or, the Baroness of Bruchsal: a Comedy.

As performed at the Theatre Royal in the Hay-Market. 8vo.
15. 6d. Cadell.

THIS is also our first acquaintance with a distinguished foreigner, with Lessing, the Shakspeare of Germany, in an English dress. We are pleased with his manner, and wish to improve our acquaintance, when we may receive him with the warmth of congratulation which should distinguish the meeting of old friends. As we have not the *Minna Von Barnhelm* at hand, we cannot distinguish the original parts from the English additions, by a sure criterion. Yet there are some glowing passages, some originalities both of conduct and sentiment, which occasionally point out the favourite of the German stage. Mr. Johnstone tells us, that this play and Lessing's 'are materially different;' that he 'should tremble to translate him,' since 'his language is neat, pure, and graceful; his humour high coloured and characteristic; and his wit delicate, yet lively.' In the original too, we find that the uncle of the baroness interposes in the height of their generous contention. Mr. Colman thought that this incident would not succeed; and, though we allow that 'his opinions are not the dogmas of barren theory;' yet we must allege, that they are not infallible: the objection must have arose from the management of the catastrophe, rather than from the incident itself.

Colonel Holberg is the Disbanded Officer, who is not only dismissed from the service, but dismissed with disgrace. In a hasty summons for contribution, to be paid in ready money, by the

the province of Thuringia, in Saxony, the sum could not be procured. At this moment, willing to spare the wretched inhabitants from the severity of military execution, he advanced the money, and took the states' bond for repayment. At the close of the war he produced the bond, which we are not told why the states refused to acknowledge, with his reasons for taking it: but both were slighted or misrepresented, and he became a bankrupt in fortune as well as in honour. Yet this incident procured the affections of the Saxons, and the heart of one of its richest heiresses, the baroness of Bruchsal. The baroness seeks him at Berlin, where his distress had at last led him to pawn the pledge of her affections, a ring. This ring she by accident redeems; and, meeting Holberg, offers him herself and her possessions. The colonel thinks he cannot in justice give, in return for her affections, tarnished honour and an impoverished estate. With his heart full of affection, he persists in rejecting her offer. The play, in this part, is greatly enlivened by the surly affection and rugged honesty of his servant Rohf, who resembles, in some measure, Pipes in *Peregrine Pickle*, though without the peculiarities of the seaman: it is relieved, by the selfish cunning of the landlord, and the sincere affection of his serjeant-major Warmans. We can find no resemblance between this character, and any of the personages in *Tristram Shandy*, which we suspect the English author hints at in his preface. Warmans possesses the benevolence of uncle Toby; but it is not that general, that unlimited affection which distinguishes captain Shandy; nor does his behaviour display the respectful distance, yet the eager fondness of the corporal. He is inferior perhaps to both, but the character is admirably drawn, and well supported. The following scene is worth preserving, as a specimen: the interest is raised with singular address, and the conclusion is equally warm and pathetic.

Scene VII. Colonel. Warmans.

Col. Warmans!

War. Oh, Colonel, I was just seeking you, to thank you for the care you have taken of my money. Rohf has given it me again; and as you, in case of any accident, must make it good, I cannot ask you, now you are in strange quarters, to take charge on't any longer.

Col. (*Smiling*) But pray how long are you become so circumspect?

War. One cannot now a-days look too sharp after one's money—but this is not all I had to say. Here, captain Marloff's widow has sent you an hundred ducats, in part of what her husband owed you, and will send you the remainder next week.

Col. Warmans why will you not understand me?

* *Col.* Warmans!

* *War.* Well, why don't you take it?

* *Col.* Good Heavens! the best people seem combined to-day to plague me most.

* *War.* Sir!

* *Col.* Warmans, when I tell you, that the captain's widow has been here this morning—

* *War.* The devil she has!

* *Col.* And that the debt is all acquitted, what will you say then?

* *War.* Say, that I have told a lie, which is very foolish; as a man that is not in the practice, is sure to be detected.

* *Col.* And won't you blush?

* *War.* Yes, but what will he do that compelled me to such an artifice? Look you, Colonel, were I to say, that I don't know and feel for your situation, I should tell another lie, and I have no luck at a lie, you see.

* *Col.* Warmans, I know your affection, but—

* *War.* You would rather sell, pawn, and make yourself the town-talk for a dirty world, than oblige a friend by borrowing his money.

* *Col.* I cannot, 'tis out of character.

* *War.* Out of character—not a bit. On a sultry day, when both the sun and the enemy had set us in a glow, your groom was miffing with your canteen; you came to me—Warmans, says you, have you any thing to drink?—I reached my flask—you drank—did you not? was that out of character? Yet, on my soul, a draught of ditch water at that moment was of more value than such trash at present: take it then, my dear Colonel, and look upon it as water sent for the general use of mankind.

* *Col.* I have told you, that I will not be your debtor.

* *War.* At first it was out of character; you could not; now you will not; that alters the case (*angrily*). You will not be my debtor—are you not already then my debtor?

* *Col.* I your debtor!

* *War.* Yes you. Or do you owe nothing to the man, who once took off from you the stroke that would have cleft you down; and another time lopped off an arm just levelling a piece to your inevitable death into your bosom?—What can make you more in debt, unless that life be of less value than this trumpery?

* *Col.* Warmans, we are alone; 'tis well we are: the presence of a third person would render such discourse insufferable boasting. Yes, I with pleasure acknowledge, that I twice have owed my life to you: but what, friend, has been ever wanting on my side, to have done full as much for you?

* *War.* Only the opportunity, my brave Colonel; but do not grudge me an opportunity—take this.

* *Col.* Warmans, why will you not understand me? I say,

it is improper I should be your debtor, at least so situated as am at present.

War. That is, you will reserve my purse till you have no occasion to borrow; or I no money left to lend you.

Col. You have, yourself, occasion for your money.

War. None—whenever wants a serjeant-major will give him subsistence.

Col. You have, to raise you to a level with your merit, since I cannot.

War. I have no views beyond my station; and scorn promotion that is no reward. In short, at present I have no need of money; you have; your affairs must soon be settled, and then you shall repay with interest—I lend it you on interest.

Col. No more, I'll not hear of it.

War. On my soul, it is on interest that I lend it. What, thought I often to myself—what will become of thee, Warmans, in thy old age, when many years and many wounds have made an halbert too heavy for thy hand—when thou hast nothing left, and when thou must shame the honour of thy former life and go a begging? No, thou shalt not go a begging, thought I; thou shalt go to colonel Holberg; he will share his utmost penny with thee—thou shalt bask in his better fortune—shed thy grey hairs un sullied by disgrace; and be borne to an honourable grave, as becomes an old soldier.

Col. Well, comrade (*snatching his hand*), and don't you think so still?

War. No, not now; he that will not accept from me when he wants, and I have—will not give me, when he has, and I want—but since it must be so, it must. (*going.*)

Col. Do not drive me to madness! (*holds him*) If I assure you upon my honour, that I have money for the present—If I assure you, that, when I want, you shall be the first person I apply to, will you be satisfied.

War. Yes, give me your hand upon it.

Col. Here Paul—and now say no more.

When the baroness finds that Holberg is insensible to her love, in his present situation, she attempts to gain him by affecting his pity. She pretends, that her uncle has forsaken and disinherited her, and in her turn, she assumes the garb of generosity, and is going to leave him. The plot succeeds: he flies to Warmans for assistance, takes that money for his Caroline, which his own distress could not induce him to accept of. At this moment, the play should have ended, or at least with only the restoration of the Colonel to his fortune; but, at this moment, Caroline is informed that the king has done justice to his merit. The news is brought by a friend of the count, a Frenchman, whose lively vanity is well contrasted to the steady inflexible modesty of Holberg, and is supposed to cover manly virtue, resolute courage, and unimpeachable veracity.

sity. The compliment is directed to the superior ranks of the French nation; and we believe it is not paid without reason. From the information of Bellair, the baroness unaccountably resolves to punish Holberg, for driving her, by his obstinate honour, to the plot which she had just carried into execution. But this has no other effect than to add one act to the play. It ceases to be interesting, because the event is certain. The ring is, however, used as the engine of the punishment, and the perplexity is heightened by the baroness having received a similar ring from the colonel, with the difference only of a cypher. When she returns him his own ring, with equivocal expressions, he thinks it is the same which he gave her, and that it is a proof of her determination to separate from him. The catastrophe soon follows, and the servant of the baroness accepts of the hand of Warmans.

We have rather been more particular in our account of the plot, because, though not altogether new to our stage, it is discriminated by peculiar incidents. It is 'the bold outline of Lessing.'

— 'Lessing a German bard of high renown,
Long, on the Continent, has charm'd the town;
His plays as much applauded at Vienna,
As here the *School for Scandal*, or *Duenna*.'

We will not be so uncomplaisant as to look too particularly at a stranger, though he would bear an anxious scrutiny without any very material disadvantage. The English author, who has filled up this outline, seems to have performed this task with spirit and propriety. The characters are well supported; the situations varied and interesting; and the dialogue animated and characteristic. In the character of Warmans, at least in the colouring of it, he seems to have approached too near to major O'Flaherty. Warmans is eager to fight the Turks in the Crimea, though he knows nothing of circumstances in which they or their antagonists are: it is enough that there is a war in Europe to induce him to sell his farm and engage again in the service. In some passages also, Mr. Johnstone seems eager to obtain a clap from the gallery, by introducing sentiments not very strictly connected with the situations: in others, he forgets the strictness of the German military etiquette. But these are trifling faults; and on the whole detract very little from the pleasure of the spectator, or of the reader.

Harold; a Tragedy. By Thomas Boyce, A. M. 4to 2s. Becker.

THIS Drama, we are told, was in its present state when the author learnt that Mr. Cumberland's tragedy,

on the same subject, was in rehearsal at Drury-lane theatre. This we allow to be no objection against Mr. Boyce's publishing it, but, as of course, it must have lain by him for some years, he should certainly have paid more attention towards the correcting and finishing it. We meet with several weak and imperfect lines, and the expletive *do* which often occurs, is repeated, no less than three times in the twenty-ninth page.

The plot is extremely simple, more conformable to the severity of the Grecian stage than the bustle and intricacy of our own. In the first scene we find that Harold's two brothers, Gurth and Lewin, are of contrary dispositions, the one declares for war, the other for peace; but, like violent opposites duly mixed, neither retard nor promote the main action. Harold informs his friend Morcar, how greatly he was attached to his queen Christina; and Morcar lets us know, in a soliloquy, that he was equally sensible of her charms.

He's gone—and whither? to his lovely queen;

To soothe her sorrows, and to lull her fears;

To pour the balm of comfort in that breast;

More pure than innocence, and bid once more

Heav'n open in her smiles.—Yes, there is somewhat

Lives in my nature, sympathising still

With Harold's heart.—He saw and lov'd.—Alas!

I saw and lov'd;—but I have lov'd in secret.

Too near his brighter sun, my humble star

Veil'd its diminish'd head.—His nobler worth,

And more exalted state of right prevail'd,

And won the royal fair one to his arms.

Be firm, my heart, be faithful to thy trust,

Nor let the traitor love attain thy virtue.

Let guilty greatness think me fool or coward;

Coward in crimes, or fool in policy:

Yes—I thank Heav'n—I dare not be a villain.

This sacrifice of love to friendship, or on the other hand of friendship to love, (and history would have warranted Morcar's defection,) might, to adopt Mr. Bayes's phrase, have thickened the plot, and produced some interesting scenes. But after this sketch of Morcar's situation, and another dialogue with Harold, almost similar, we see nothing more of him, except in a scene with the other British chiefs; in which he acts a part of no greater consequence than that of a Spinoso, or Theodore, in *Venice Preserved*. In the second act Christina, and Editha the late king's widow, make their appearance; and a Norman monk has an interview with Stigand, archbishop of Canterbury, whom he endeavours, but in vain, to withdraw from his allegiance to Harold. This incident, likewise,

has

has no effect on the future action. In the next scene, Harold assembles his barons: Gurth is for proposing terms of accommodation; Lewin for immediate action; they quarrel, are reconciled, and the act concludes. In the next, Harold meets Stigand, Christina, and Editha, at the abbey, and quits them to lead his army against the Normans. The others, after a long conversation, action indeed has but little to do with this piece, propose supplicating heaven by prayers and processions to aid Harold. The peripetia now commences; Edwin enters, and informs them that the Normans fly, and Edwin is desirous of

‘Changing the sad solemnity of sorrow

To festal pomp sublime.’

Act 5th. The scene, and same characters continue—they are filled with a variety of terrors and apprehension; the ladies retire, a messenger informs Stigand that the Normans flight was pretended, the day lost, and Gurth and Lewin slain. Harold is brought in mortally wounded; gives his last directions, and takes a mournful leave of Christina. Though, as an English Drama, the plot is too barren of incidents to promise much success on the stage, yet it will afford entertainment in the closet. The characters are not badly drawn, some passages are written with spirit, and some not devoid of pathos. Had the first act been omitted, the scene laid in the abbey, the archbishop presided over a chorus of monks, or, which might easily have been done with the utmost facility, been changed into a lady abbess and headed a chorus of virgins, with a few other trifling alterations, the Drama would have been formed after the Grecian model in its utmost purity.

The History of Modern Europe. With an Account of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire, and a View of the Progress of Society. From the Rise of the Modern Kingdoms to the Peace of Paris, in 1763. A new Edition. 8vo. Five Volumes. 11. 10s. in Boards. Robinsons.

WE have formerly had occasion to mention this History in terms of approbation, when published in separate parts; and now with pleasure see it appear in its present combined and respectable form, in which we find it more polished, more accurate, and more copious. The improvements in this edition consist of a general melioration of style, from the familiar to the solemn, but without destroying the ease of the epistolary manner of writing; of a more perfect concatenation of events, and a fuller display of their causes and consequences;

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of

of a great number of authorities, accompanied with observations, which shew, that the author has not quoted them at hazard, or adopted them on trust; and lastly, of a copious Chronological Table of Contents prefixed to each volume.

Of the particular additions, in the body of the work, it is more difficult to speak, as they can only be discovered by a minute comparison of the present edition with the former. We can, however, readily perceive, that the author has considerably enlarged his view of the progress of manners, religion, and literature; that he has inserted many new incidents and anecdotes, as well as moral and political reflections, both in the text and in the notes; that he has more fully delineated several of his principal characters; and that, in some places, he has greatly expanded his narrative, especially in treating of the European affairs on the Continent of America, and in the East and West Indies. Nor must we omit to acknowledge his particular attention to the convulsions which have happened in the British constitution, and to the elucidation of every disputed point in English or Scottish history.

As just ideas of the nature and origin of our free constitution are of the utmost importance to the young nobility and gentry of Great Britain, Mr. Russel, in the assumed character of a nobleman and father, has taken great pains to explain himself on those points, to his supposed son. Not satisfied with having given an ample view of the Anglo-Saxon government, at the union of the several kingdoms of the heptarchy under Egbert, he resumes the subject after the Norman Conquest or Revolution, as he cautiously expresses himself, and distinctly marks the change occasioned by that great event.

‘The original government of the Anglo-Saxons (says he), as we have seen, was a kind of military democracy, under a king or chief, whose authority was very limited, and whose office was not strictly hereditary, but depended on the will of the people. This government they brought into Britain with them. Matters of small consequence were settled by the king in council; but all affairs of general concern or national importance, the making of laws, the imposing of taxes, the declaring of war, were laid before the wittenagemot or parliament, and determined by the majority of voices, or at least by the preponderation of public opinion.

From that assembly no freeman could be said to be excluded; for although a certain portion of land was necessary as a qualification, a husbandman or tradesman no sooner acquired that portion, which was different at different times of the

the Anglo-Saxon government, than he had a right to be present; not only as a spectator, a privilege that was common to every one, but as a constituent member of the wittenagemot. And all merchants who had made two voyages to foreign countries, on their own account, became possessed of the same right, by a law passed in the reign of king Athelstan; so that our Anglo-Saxon ancestors might make with truth the glorious boast of modern Englishmen, that every member of the community shared with his sovereign the power and authority by which he was governed. Little wonder therefore, that the great lines of this ennobling system of freedom, long after it was destroyed, seemed to be engraved in their hearts, by the keen sorrow with which it was regretted.

If the Anglo-Saxons, as a nation, had reason to think themselves happy in their deliberative and legislative, they were no less so in their juridical capacity. Justice was universally the care of the great body of the people; and a regular chain of appeal was established from the tithing or decenary, consisting of ten families, up to the wittenagemot, which was a supreme court of law, as well as a national council or assembly. But the grand security of justice, and even of liberty and property, was the court called the shiremote, held twice a year in every county, at a stated time and place; where, along with the alderman or earl of the shire, and the bishop of the diocese, all the clergy and landholders of the county were obliged to be present, and determined, by the majority of voices, all causes brought before them, in whatever stage of their progress; beginning with the causes of the church, taking next under cognizance the pleas of the crown, and lastly the disputes of private persons.

As the duke of Normandy, by taking the usual oath administered to the Anglo-Saxon kings at their coronation, had solemnly engaged to maintain the constitution, and to administer justice according to the laws, the English nation had reason to believe they had merely changed their native sovereign for one of foreign extraction; a matter to them of small concern, as I have had occasion to observe, especially as the line of succession had been already broken by the usurpation or election of Harold. But although William affected moderation for a while, and even adopted a few of the laws of Edward the Confessor, in order to quiet the apprehensions of his new subjects, to these laws he paid little regard; and no sooner did he find himself firmly established on the throne, than he entirely subverted the form of government, and the manner of administering justice, throughout the whole kingdom. The government which he substituted was a rigid feudal monarchy,

or military aristocracy, in which a regular chain of subordination and service was established, from the sovereign or commander in chief, to the serf, or villian; and which, like all feudal governments, was attended with a grievous depression of the body of the people, who were daily exposed to the insults, violences, and exactions of the nobles, whose vassals they all were, and from whose oppressive jurisdiction it was difficult and dangerous for them to appeal.

This depression, as might be expected, was more complete and humiliating in England, under the first Anglo-Norman princes, than in any other feudal government. William I. by his artful and tyrannical policy, by attainders and confiscations, had become, in the course of his reign, proprietor of almost all the lands in the kingdom. These lands, however, he could not retain, had he been even willing, in his own hands: he was under the necessity of bestowing the greater part of them on his Norman captains or nobles, the companions of his conquest, and the instruments of his tyranny, who had led their own vassals to battle. But those grants he clogged with heavy feudal services, and payments or prestations, which no one dared to refuse. He was the general of a victorious army, which was still obliged to continue in a military posture, in order to secure the possession it had seized. And the Anglo-Norman barons, and tenants in capite, by knights service, who only held immediately of the crown, and with the dignified clergy, formed the national assembly, imposed obligations yet more severe on their vassals, the inferior landholders, consisting chiefly of unhappy English gentlemen, as well as on the body of the people, for whom they seemed to have no bowels of compassion. But the rigour of the Anglo-Norman government, and the tyrannical and licentious spirit of the nobles, proved ultimately favourable to general liberty. The oppressed people looked up to the king for protection; and circumstances enabled them to obtain it. The defect in the title of William II. and of Henry I. induced them to listen to the complaints of their English subjects, and to redress many of their grievances. The people, in some measure satisfied with the relief afforded them, became sensible of their consequence, and of their obligations to the crown; while the barons, finding themselves in quiet possession of their English estates, and apprehending no future disturbance from the natives, bore with impatience the burdens imposed upon them by William I. and to which they had readily submitted, in the hour of conquest and of danger. They saw the necessity of being more indulgent to their vassals, in order to obtain sufficient force to enable them to retrench the prerogative of the sovereign,

sovereign, and of connecting their cause with that of the people. And the people, always formidable by their numbers, courted by both parties, and sometimes siding with one, sometimes with the other, in the bloody contents between the king and the barons, recovered by various progressive steps, which I shall have occasion to trace in the course of my narration, their ancient and natural right to a place in the parliament, or national assembly.

Thus restored to a share in the legislature, the English commonalty felt more fully their own importance; and by a long and vigorous struggle, maintained with unexampled perseverance, they wrestled from both the king and the nobles, all the other rights of a free people, of which their Anglo-Saxon ancestors had been robbed by the violent invasion, and cruel policy of William the Norman. To those rights they were entitled as men, by the great law of nature and reason, which declares the welfare of the whole community to be the end of all civil government; and as Englishmen, by inheritance. In whatever light, therefore, we view the privileges of the commons, they are resurrections, not usurpations.

The same attention to the rights of the people is conspicuous in the author's narrative, through the subsequent periods of British history. From the Revolution, in 1688, in particular, he seems to turn a jealous eye upon the influence of the crown, and to watch with anxious observation the integrity of parliament. Nor is he inattentive to the constitution of other states, or to their transactions either civil or military. In a word, this History, as now enlarged and improved, contains a clear and satisfactory account of the affairs of Modern Europe; exhibiting the progress of government, and of the human mind, in conjunction with the revolutions of kingdoms and states, the operations of war, the intrigues of courts, the fluctuation of manners, and the convulsions of religion.

The History of the Reign of Philip III. King of Spain. The First Four Books by Robert Watson, LL. D. The Two last by William Thomson, LL. D. Second Edition. Two Volumes 8vo. 12s. in Boards. Robinsons.

BY the form in which this work now appears, a volume is allotted to the share of each of its authors; the first comprising that part of the history which was written by Dr. Watson; and the second, the continuation of the narrative, by the editor. Dr. Watson, while employed on this subject, had been favoured with the use of important manuscripts by

That respectable friend to literature, the Earl of Hardwicke, and we have the pleasure to find that his successor has been honoured with farther communications of a similar kind, by the same liberal and well informed nobleman. It is to this valuable source that we are indebted for the chief improvements in the present edition, which is enlarged with a copious Appendix of authentic and interesting materials. The principal of these is an abridged translation of a Latin manuscript. We cannot but highly approve the conduct of the editor, in laying before the public the conferences of both the Spanish and English commissioners at London, in 1604, for effecting a peace between their respective nations. These conferences, as he observes, were carried on with extraordinary ability, decorum, and dignity, on both sides. We must admit, that they serve not only to gratify a curiosity relative to their particular subject, but to throw light on the interests and views of the courts of London and Madrid, at that time, on the state of commerce; and the sentiments, manners, and general character of the age.

We shall present our readers with an extract from the beginning of this new historical acquisition. On Sunday the 2d of this instant, the earl of Dorset, lord high treasurer; the earl of Nottingham, lord high admiral; the earls of Devonshire and Northampton, and the lord Cecil principal secretary, being appointed commissioners by his majesty to treat with Don Juan de Taxis conde de Villa Mediana, the Spanish ambassador; and signior Alexander de Rouda, senator of Milan, commissioners; authorising on the behalf of the king of Spain, and the count of Aremberg, the president Richardot, and the audiencer Veriken, authorised in the like manner on the behalf of the archdukes of Austria, Burgundy, &c. to treat about the making and concluding of a firm peace and amitie betwixt his majesty's kingdom and subjects, and the aforesaid princes' subjects and dominions, their lordships repaired to Somerset-house, the lodging of the said Spanish ambassador; and there, with the rest of the other commissioners, entered into a common conference concerning the said business.

A fair great chamber, heretofore used for the council-chamber in the said house, was expressly prepared by his majesty for the said meeting, and it was thought fit to give the said commissioners the place of the right hand at the table, in respect of the great honour done to his majesty in sending of the said commissioners to treat here within this realm.

The said commissioners being placed together on the right hand of the table, and their lordships on the left hand in the

same

same manner, the earl of Northampton in a speech in the Latin language; fraught, according to the manner of the times, with many quotations and allusions to the sacred scriptures, and the Grecian and Roman literature, among other things, congratulated his audience on the prospect of peace; set forth the pacific dispositions, as well as prosperous fortune of his Britannic majesty; expatiated on the duty of sacrificing all passions, whether of individuals, or of the times, to the general good of mankind; mentioned several circumstances which ought naturally to conciliate peace and good will between the king of Spain and the princes of the house of Burgundy on the one part, and the king of Great Britain and Ireland on the other; and expressed, in conclusion, his ardent wishes and hopes, that not only would a good correspondence be established between those princes, of which he did not entertain any doubts, but that all grounds of animosity, jealousy, and contention would be removed from the breasts of their respective subjects.

After the earl of Northampton had ended his speech, the senator of Millan made also a speech in Latin at greater length, and more religious, learned, and elaborate than that of Northampton. In this speech, among other particulars, he reminds the commissioners of the marked proofs of sincere congratulation which his master the king of Spain, had given to his Britannic majesty, on his accession to the crowns of Scotland, England and Ireland, and of the professions of friendship and amity, which on that occasion his most serene highness the king of Great Britain had made to his most Catholic majesty. The mutual professions of good will which then took place between those princes, seemed to the senator of Millan to resemble that "rushing as a mighty wind," which preceded the descent of the holy spirit on the Apostles; and therefore, he exhorts them to banish from their councils all passions and prejudices of every kind; animadverts severely and fully on certain denominations, and classes or kinds of men, who would endeavour all that was in their power to obstruct the present negotiation for peace; calls to mind the ancient habits and bands of friendship which had subsisted between the kings of Great Britain and the princes of the house of Austria; bestows the highest praises on king James on account of his pacific disposition; expresses the utmost satisfaction and joy at the general appearance of a pacific disposition throughout Europe; exhorts all the European princes to peace among themselves, and animates them to a common resistance of the Turks, the common enemy of Christendom. He prays for a return of peace and commerce, with all their blessings; he promises his utmost endeavours for effectuating so desirable

an object, and appeals to God for the sincerity of his declarations. The president Richardot made a short declaration in French, to the like effect, of the affectionate desire of his prince to continue and maintain the good amity which had been ever between his majesty and them; and that to that end, and not to fail in the performance of any kind and loving office towards his majesty, the said princes his masters sent to congratulate his majesty's coming to the crown. So because it hath heretofore fallen out, either in respect of the unhappiness of the former times, or by God's just judgment for our sins, or by other occasion, that there have reigned great dissensions between the kings of England and the princes of the Low Countries, now possessed by the said princes, which heretofore could not be determined, their desire was both for the assurance of the public quiet of Christendom, which hath received no small interruption by these differences, and to renew the ancient amity and friendship which hath been ever carefully cherished between this state and the said provinces; to conclude such a firm peace and solid amity between his majesty and the said princes as might be for the common utility of both their states, which they hoped would accordingly succeed to the effect desired by them, out of the trial which they have always made of his majesty's princely and Christian inclination to so good a work; and out of the same assurance for the like respects of interest, they had solicited the king of Spain to join in common treaty with them, which he prayed God to bless with a happy and fruitful success.

It would be endless to point out the various articles which constitute the improvements of the present edition. Suffice it to say, that besides the insertion of several notes, the editor has selected, and arranged in proper order, with reflections of his own, as a band of connection, a multiplicity of information, derived from the materials which had been granted for the purpose by the earl of Hardwicke. This history of Philip the Third, therefore, though formerly respectable, is now rendered yet more complete, and more worthy of that approbation which it has already experienced from the public.

FOREIGN LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

(Continued from p. 144.)

WE have not yet been enabled to follow our neighbours steps in some sciences, whose importance appears to be considerable; in reality we have not been allured by any very splendid prospects, by any brilliant discoveries. In geography, captain

Captain Cook's Voyages have awakened emulation, which has already excited the French to similar attempts. Bougainville and Kerguelen are indeed sufficiently known, both as navigators and discoverers. Perhaps, in another route, and more prosperous circumstances, they might have rivalled Cook, who, in one voyage ascertained what the numerous attempts of the Russians were incapable of explaining; in one voyage, taught us how futile and ineffectual every trial to discover a north-west passage must be, even in the most probable channels, from Hudson's or Baffin's Bay. We must wait for the return of the voyagers, who sailed in the beginning of this year from a port of France, and at present speak chiefly of compilations which, if they do not enlarge the bounds of the science, yet contribute to point out deficiencies, and very often, by an accurate comparison of different authors, teach us how to supply them. In France, a collection of voyages to the North has begun to appear: two volumes are already published, both at Geneva and Paris, intended as a supplement to the general collection of voyages by the abbe Prevost. The editors wish to make the northern kingdoms better known to their countrymen. The contents of the first volume are chiefly translations from Pennant, Borlase, and Van Troil; among them is Dr. Johnson's Tour to the Hebrides. We mention this work chiefly to introduce hereafter the contents of the subsequent volumes, which, as they are less known, will probably be more interesting to the English reader. We shall not enlarge on a History of Northern Voyages, because it has now appeared in an English dress, and will soon attract our attention in a greater degree.

In a more confined view we may mention a Manual of the History and Geography of Prussia; but the geographical is the smallest and least interesting part of it: we speak of it, not only for its accuracy, but for the sake of the author. His name is M. de Baezko, a man born to misfortunes. He was a cripple at his birth, and broke his arm in his youth. While at the university of Konigsberg, he lost an eye by the small-pox; and at the age of twenty-one became quite blind. In this situation he wanted necessaries, and was overwhelmed with debts, when M. de Domhardt recommended him to a society of literary men, who supported him, on consideration of employing his time on the history and geography of Prussia. His misfortunes were not yet at an end; for, about the conclusion of this volume, he again lost his eyes, his hands, and his feet, in the loss of his amanuensis and assistant, who was unfortunately drowned. A work more strictly geographical is entitled *Voyages in Suabia, Bavaria, Switzerland, Franconia, and the provinces of the Rhine and Moselle*, by M. Gerken. He has corrected, in many respects, the best geographers, particularly M. Buching, and Signior Nicolai. Some parts of the countries, through which he passed, are so little known, that we could wish for an English version of this work. The part lately published

is the second: it is in 8vo. in the German language, and appeared first at Stendal.

The French, who have for some time looked on North America as a country which they have acquired by conquest, have published geographical details of many parts of it. Some of these have been translated from the English, but some are original communications from those in whom the flame of liberty burned so ardently, that they have left their country, to raise it, in secret, in the American forests. One of the latest communications is from Mr. Jones, describing a marsh called Diomatswamp, near the mouth of the Delaware, partly in the province of Pennsylvania and partly in that of Maryland. It contains an account of a dreadful conflagration, which happened in the dry summer of June, 1782, probably from the inflammable air of the marsh, set on fire by lightning, and is accompanied by M. Marbois, secretary to the French ambassador, account of its effects. The whole memoir is interesting and well written: we shall probably give some farther account of it.

A German work, by professor Dittmar, published at Berlin, on the country of the Chaldeans, deserves also our attention in this department. It is the specimen of a larger work, relating to the Geography of ancient Asia, of which great expectations have been formed. It is supposed by this author that Arphaxad, the name of the father of the race of Abraham, is the name also of a country, and that Abraham was originally of this country, which was the same with the Ur of the Chaldeans, and the Arrapachitis of Ptolomy, situated in eastern Mesopotamia, on the western bank of the Tigris. The Chaldeans, extended, as he has endeavoured to show, over this part of the country and even reached the western side of Mesopotamia, though the Armenians were the principal nation in that part of the country, but their appearance was owing to a colony left by Abraham in his journey to Canaan. The district on the western bank of the Euphrates was also called Chaldea from the same people, who are supposed to have migrated there, when Mesopotamia fell under the dominion of the kings of Assyria. But the Chaldeans seem never to have mixed with the Babylonians: their language, their religion, and their cities were entirely distinct.

We have received a late account of Africa, in letters from some captives, who were redeemed from slavery by the regular canons of the Holy Trinity. The work is in French, published at Paris; and, though it deserves mentioning in this line, as well as to be read, since it gives an entertaining account of the manners and customs of the inhabitants of Morocco, Algiers, Tunis, and Tripoli, yet it adds little to the stock of geographical knowledge.

An important work has been published in Latin at Vienna, containing an account of a warlike people, in the province of Paraguay,

Paraguay, styled the Abiponians. The author is M. Martin Dobrizhoffer, formerly a Jesuit, and a missionary at Paraguay for eighteen years. He describes very particularly Paraguay, Tédumania, Chako, the country of the Abiponians, and the neighbouring provinces. He gives us considerable information in these respects, which we shall endeavour, in some future article, to relate in a more concise, clear manner, than we find it in our author.

In France, geography has lately descended from the surface to the bowels of the earth, and a new science has arisen, entitled Geographical Mineralogy. Orpéological maps have been published, where the divisions arise from the variety of the different strata found in the earth. M. Monnet has lately read an important memoir to the Academy of Sciences, on mountains, and the peculiar appearances on the surface, which promise rich stores of minerals to the adventurous miner. It is remarkable that several works, on the geographical mineralogy of France are written by Russians. We shall not mention them particularly, because none have been published so lately as to become the objects of our attention: our readers may see specimens of this kind of geography in Ferber's and baron Born's travels. Of the natural history of Austria, two volumes of a German work have been lately published at Saltzbourg, in which the two sciences we have just mentioned are combined with discussions which belong more strictly to natural history. We may observe, because we shall find no place better adapted to it, that the author of the greater part of the first volume, M. Schrank, pretends to have discovered the source of the very extensive mist of the year 1783. He thinks it arose from the sudden melting of the snow in these mountains. There is a pretty extensive memoir, on the same subject, in the last volume of the Dijon Memoirs; but no one has noticed or confirmed the singular observation of sir John Cullum, in the Philosophical Transactions, on that subject*. M. Schrank thinks also, with Mr. Bourrit, that the snow extends farther than usual on the valleys. It will be difficult to reconcile this observation with those which have been made on fossil bones, discovered in regions colder than those in which they now live; but as this belongs rather to the history of the earth as a planet, we must not anticipate the subject. In the last part of the volume, we find some cosmographical speculations. Our author not only opposes those who support the eternity of the world, but even the advocates for its great antiquity. He thinks that the ancients reckoned their year by the harvests, and that in the eastern nations, they had frequently two within the limits of the solar year. The author's arguments are, however, very weak. An enlightened philosopher sees nothing to contradict, very materially, the chronology of Moses. We shall just take the liberty to observe, that our observations respecting granite have been

An important work has been published in London, containing an account of a mine in the province of Crit. Rev. vol. ix. p. 161

mistaken, and supposed to favour the too great antiquity of the earth, where we mention the vast quantities of water required to dissolve the component parts of this stone, and the long periods necessary for their evaporation. We were then speaking of a particular hypothesis: the best chemists, and we are not mistaken when we mention Bergman, Morveau, and the Abbé Haüy in that line, think that a minute division, and a suspension in water, is sufficient for the several attractions to take place, in order to form crystals. Romé de l'Isle supposes that a chemical solution is indispensable to admit of the same operation. But this is one of the chemical heresies we have hinted at, in our account of his work. He believes that every solution is made by means of an acid, and that earthy bodies, capable of solution, contain an acid in some shape. This opinion is not well supported; and if, as M. Bernard asserts, he has in his cabinet rock crystal, in a statuetical form, it will effectually destroy Romé de l'Isle's hypothesis. The whole subject is examined, at some length, in the *compte de la Cepede's Physique General*, a very unequal work, lately published.—But to return. The few letters in the first volume of the *Natural History of Austria*, not written by M. Schrank, relate entirely to Natural History. They are the production of M. Moll, who is the chief author of the second volume, in which we find some information in natural history, but the principal parts are political and economical details. We shall finish this little geographical sketch, by announcing a valuable introduction to this science, lately published by M. Schoultze, at Halle, and a good map of the Austrian Netherlands, at Brussels. We shall also shortly mention the different voyagers from whom we may reasonably expect some information, both on geography and natural history.

M. Dombey is lately returned from Peru, from whence he has brought a large collection of vegetables and minerals. He is also said to have gained considerable information relating to the state of the country, and customs of the inhabitants. M. Michaux, who lately returned from Arabia and Persia, where he had been four years, is gone in quest of farther information to North America. We know not whether we are to receive the fruits of his former travels till his return. M. Des Fontaines has promised us the observations which he made during his three years residence in Tunis and Algiers. M. Richard is not yet returned from the forests of Guiana; and M. Schwartz his companion has left him, to proceed in search of farther discoveries in Brazil.

If we consider this globe as a part of the solar system, we shall perceive that from the attractions of the different planets, and from various other causes, considerable changes must have occurred in it. We perceive no works professedly on this subject. The few remarks which we shall suggest, are taken from miscellaneous authors, and memoirs lately read in learned societies.

M. de

M. de la Metherie, at the conclusion of the abbé Fortis' observations, relating to fossil bones of animals, now found only in warm climates, suggests some considerations, which seem to deserve attention. He thinks, that in the first periods of the earth's existence, it was entirely covered with water. This is now a very general opinion; but the water did not reach to the highest hills at present discovered, for Chimborazo, and some other high parts of the Andes, are evidently volcanic. At that period, he thinks, the diurnal rotation of the globe was more accelerated than it is at present; for, by mensuration, the diameter of the earth at the equator was to that of its axis, as 178 to 177, while, by the doctrine of central forces, it must be as 230 to 229. By means of this greater centrifugal force, the waters must have been then accumulated at the equator. Again: the obliquity of the ecliptic is continually diminishing, so that it is reasonable to suppose, it will be one day parallel with the equator. This change is owing to the action of other planets on the spheroidal mass of earth. If we suppose then, that when this motion was so much accelerated, the ecliptic was parallel to the equator, the frigid zones were continually enlightened: there was a perpetual spring in those regions, and a greater degree of heat than in any part towards the equator, where the day alternated with night. The diurnal rotation, from various causes, became slower, the waters returned towards the poles, and discovered the tropical countries. At the same time, probably, the ecliptic began to form an angle with the equator. In this varying scene, the same causes will continue to produce the same effects; and the North may again enjoy its genial sun, and its flourishing harvests. This is nearly M. de la Metherie's hypothesis.

M. Cotte, a learned ecclesiastic, supposes that the lunar period of nineteen years has some influence on the weather, that the changes in the corresponding parts of each period are very similar. From this opinion we generally find, in the *Journal des Sçavans*, the weather predicted for the succeeding year. An Englishman is reminded of Partridge's Almanack; and we can truly say, that, in our climate, we have seen no very striking and decided agreement; yet perhaps, on the whole, as a wet, dry, warm, or cold year, taking these terms very generally, there may be frequently a resemblance. M. Sennebier, an able philosopher of Geneva, very properly directs us to leave these fanciful relations, and attend more to observation, and the perfection of our instruments. M. Cotte thinks with M. Sennebier, that the relation of the weather to each lunar point is not yet demonstrated. These able observers will probably throw some additional light on this subject, by their future attention.

We may ascend from this planet to the other parts of the solar system, before we finish our lunar period, in other words, our monthly labours. The splendor of Herschell, and his new discovery,

discovery, has not dazzled the eyes of foreigners so much as to make them blind to his merit, or to the brilliancy of the stars. We foretold that the discoverer's own name would be affixed to the new planet. The Georgium Sidus is already almost forgotten. Some have followed us, in styling it the Neptune; others have given it the name of the metal lately discovered, the platina; but astronomers, as if inspired with one voice, call it the HERSCHELL. M. Villeneuve, one of the new observers established last year at the royal observatory, has lately calculated, for the whole year, an ephemerides of the places of this planet, which he has communicated to astronomers in manuscript. Let us make a short extract from it. On the 15th of March, the Herschell will pass over the meridian, at 7h. 32', 22" 52' northern declination: on the 15th of April, at 5h. 40' with 22° 1' N.D. It may be seen till about the month of June, when it will be obscured by the rays of the sun, which it will enter about that time. This planet advances $4\frac{1}{3}$ every year, the duration of its revolution being 83 years; it appears like a star of the sixth magnitude; its real diameter is about three times that of the earth, and its distance 650 millions of (French) leagues.

If we advance farther in the regions of space, we shall find the comets: their nature, their number, appearance, and orbits have been accurately examined by M. Pingre, in his *Cometographie*, a vast work, full of information on the subject of these excentric bodies. It is one that we can only announce, as it appeared, we believe, in 1784; and if we proceeded to examine works at so great distance, we should be involved in a mass of confusion, while we can scarcely allot sufficient space for those new ones, which continually engage our attention. The same apology we must make, for mentioning only Mr. de la Lande's last volume, which completes his very accurate and valuable *Sysem of Astronomy*.

Chemische Annalen, &c. that is, *Chemical Annals*, dedicated to the Lovers of Natural History, Medicine, Domestic Oeconomy, Manufactures, &c. by M. Crell, M. D. Vol. I. No. 5 and 6. Leipzig.

AS we have mentioned Mr. Crell's *Chemical Annals*, a periodical work, with which our readers in general are little acquainted, we shall, in this Number, shortly lay before them the contents of the two parts of his volume, just published.

1. Experiment, by M. Achard, to determine whether from the passage of elastic vapours through red-hot tubes, any air can be obtained. He boiled, in different receivers, water, caustic spirit of sal ammoniac, spirit of turpentine, and oil of olives: the vapour, disengaged, was conveyed through different tubes, some cold, others red-hot, into jars filled with water.

The

The heat and cold were found to influence, in a great degree, both the quantity and the quality of the air.

2. A chemical analysis of common spar, by M. Wiegler. In every ounce of this spar he found five drachms seven grains of calcareous earth; two drachms thirty-four grains of argil; seven grains of iron, and a small quantity of sparry acid fluor.

3. The best way of preparing Klaproth's red ley.

4. On the preparation of red arsenic, by M. Prætorius, in which the author combats Becker's assertions on this subject.

5. The effects of mixing nitrous acid with expressed and essential oils, and the liquid balsams, by M. Haffé.

6. A chemical analysis of the juice of cherries, by M. Hermstadt. Two pounds of this juice, inspissated, and joined with spirit of nitre, yielded, besides water and air, five drachms of acid, a neutral salt like cream of tartar, and a scruple of selenite. A similar result was lately obtained in France, from the juice of apples, and the acid has been dignified by the title of malaceous acid. The acid of gooseberries has produced the same elements when analysed, by M. Fontana; but they are improperly called elements, because they may be all reduced to fixed, phlogisticated, and inflammable airs.

7. Observations and experiments on smoking spirit of nitre, by M. Dolfous.

8. On the resin, obtained in preparing the ether of Frobenius, by M. Westrumb. It is composed of vegetable acid, vitriolic acid, Glauber's salt, calcareous earth, flint, iron, and a substance whose nature is uncertain, which appears like a glassy scoria.

9. On a dye for silk, by M. Gmelin.

10. A continuation of M. Achard's experiments. He employed in these, oil of vitriol, spirit of salt, aqua regia, acid of ants, and atmospheric air, all of which were altered in different degrees, by heat.

11. A continuation of Wiegler's experiments on common spar.

12. Continuation of M. Haffé's experiments with nitrous acid. He now examined its effects on oil of mint, on that of different kinds of hops, of wild and spare mint, of turpentine, tansy, sage, serpyllum, savine, and thyme.

13. On the acid of sugar, and spirit of wine, by M. Westrumb.

14. Miscellaneous extracts, from letters addressed to the author.

15. Extracts from the new Swedish Memoirs, from those of the academy of Montpellier, and the observations of the abbé Rozier; among these are, 1. Experiments to reduce lunar cornea without loss, and at little expence, 2. Enquiry into the quantity of calcareous earth, contained in sugar, by M. Hienols. 3. On oil of olives, by M. Goueragne. 4. On the principal

principal minerals found in the neighbourhood of Alais, by M. Sauvages. 5. Experiments on the grit, and sand of Fontainbleau. 6. On the means by which water dissolves a true oily matter, by M. Hermann. 7. Observations on amianthus. 8. On a certain method of preparing the spirit of soap. 9. On the Russian method of preparing isinglass, and on a manufacture of that kind established in England, by M. Chevalier. We suspect that this gentleman is misinformed; if any manufacture of this kind was established in our country, it was soon discontinued. It is very lately that we knew the true method by which it is prepared. 10. On the reduction of metallic calces, by the electrical spark, by M. Fontaine. 11. Advertisements of new chemical works. 12. Chemical news.

Though this is little more than a 'muster-roll of names,' yet we would not delay our account, as it is the first public notice of a very respectable work. The different papers, so far as they contain any new discovery, will naturally occur in our successive Numbers.

Torberni Bergman, Opuscula Chemica & Physica, jam ab Auctore revise et aucta. Vol. III. Upsalix.

WE have waited in expectation of being able to introduce this third volume of Bergman's Essays in an English dress; but, since it has not yet appeared, our readers must be no longer deprived of the instruction, which is to be found in the original. The Essay, on Elective Attractions, being already translated, unless there are numerous notes, we fear that Dr. Cullen will scarcely be able to fill his volume: he will allow us to hint, that the second volume of M. Morveau's translation has appeared, and that we have reason to expect the third in a short time. The notes in that volume are not very numerous; but they are important, and on their account we shall endeavour to give, in some future Number, a short account of the French version. M. Morveau's third volume is to be accompanied with the life, and the portrait of the author: it is to contain also, in which we hope he will be followed by Dr. Cullen, the memoir 'sur les terres geoniques.' The first essay is a very important one, On the Analysis of Iron. Mr. Pott was employed in his experiments on earth, that the Dresden manufacture might imitate successfully the Chinese: to this emulation we owe a great part of our knowledge of the chemical nature of earths; and we suspect that M. Bergman had in view the imitation of English steel. The object was carefully concealed by the German chemist; and some faint traces are only discoverable in the Swedish: M. Quist seems, however, in the essay before us, to have made very near approaches to our manufacture. Our author's analysis is first directed to discover the proportion of 'reducing phlogiston,' or that which is required

to change the calx into a metal, then to ascertain the 'coagulating phlogiston,' or that which changes the supposed radical acid to the form of a calx. In some metals, this acid is said to have been discovered. M. Hassenfratz, professor of philosophy, in the school designed for instructing pupils in the art of mining, thinks that he has separated the coagulating phlogiston so as to discover the acids of tin and iron; but he has done little more than announce the discovery, and we fear that he has been in too great haste to come to a conclusion. Bergman next enquires into the quantity of heat in iron; then examines the heterogenous matters usually found: from all these circumstances, he endeavours to ascertain the proximate principles of the metal, its state in the form of a calx, and adds some remarks relating to its magnetic quality.

From many curious and well conducted experiments, he concludes, that vitriolic and muriatic acids separate equal bulks of inflammable air from iron, and that the reducing phlogiston is proportional to these bulks. The effects of the nitrous acid were too much influenced by minute circumstances, and too unequal to be, even with every precaution, depended on. There is a great variety in crude iron, made from the same ore, and this variety our author ascertains with sufficient minuteness: on the whole, it appears that there is the least proportion of phlogiston in crude iron, a larger in steel, and in wrought iron most of all. The hot-short and the cold-short irons contain as much or more than steel. Though this conclusion is stated with a modest diffidence, yet it is well supported, and, though different from the common opinions, may be relied on as generally true. M. Quist's steel contains somewhat more phlogiston than the English. The examination of the proportion of reducing phlogiston in the dry way, furnishes some useful facts. Good crude iron is changed into steel by fusion only, either in a close or an open crucible; by adding calcareous earth, black manganese, or flint glass. Calx of lead brings the metal into an intermediate state, between crude iron and steel, and it is, at the same time, brittle. 'The steel, made by means of glass, was much the best; and, in every respect nearest to the English cast steel.' Crude iron, with some calx of the same metal, became of the nature of wrought iron: it was injured by the hot-short iron, but with the cold-short was changed into steel.

With respect to the matter of heat, malleable iron contains the least proportion, and very little, if any plumbago: steel contains a larger proportion of both; and crude iron the largest. In the latter, by a strong heat, and a violent blast, the plumbago is decomposed, the fixed air escapes, and the phlogiston is added to the iron, or rather the iron decomposes the plumbago by attracting its phlogiston; for a large quantity of this last principle prevents the decomposition, as we find by the iron

being more fusible; it is evident, that the change of crude iron into malleable, is not owing to the addition of the inflammable principle only, because we cannot produce this effect by surrounding it with coals. In a close vessel, the change is produced by adding a calx of iron, which, attracting the fixed air, leaves the phlogiston at liberty to adhere to the metal. M. Bergman pursues this explanation in all its circumstances; but we are unable to abridge his reasonings, since they are so nearly connected with the particular experiments.

The heterogeneous matters in iron are manganese, arsenic, zinc, plumbago, and sulphureous acid. The plumbago has a stony earth combined with it, and the *English steel*, we are told, has less of it than the foreign. Bergman examines whether this mineral may not have occasioned the additional quantities of phlogiston in steel and wrought iron; and he finds that, though it increases it in some measure, yet they still show their proportional superiorities. The hot-short iron contains the greatest quantity of plumbago; but this quality he supposes is not owing to it, or the sulphureous acid. The few experiments on its nature, and that of the cold-short, seem to show that that there is no peculiar acid which occasions it; but even Bergman was deceived, as we have already mentioned, in our *Foreign Literary Intelligence*. The qualities of each of these kinds are detailed at length, but we shall have an opportunity of mentioning them in our account of a subsequent dissertation.

The following section is on the calx of iron, and the great power of water on the metal; the necessity of diluting the vitriolic acid before any solution of iron can take place, leads Bergman to suspect something of a saline, probably of an acid nature, as the basis. The first object is to examine the effects of water on the calx, and heat is found to be excited by their union, by continually adding fresh water, the metallic appearance is destroyed, and the iron becomes a black magnetic powder, combined with a little ocre, not magnetic. Water has a slight power on iron in a close vessel, and the air is somewhat diminished. The following experiments relate only to the imoak and heat, which arise from combining the different sorts of iron with water and sulphur.

It is well known, that ocre is deposited from a solution of blue vitriol; it is also deposited by boiling the solution, without any exposure to the open air; but the hot-short iron throws down some white particles before the ocre appears. These appear to be a calx of a peculiar nature, probably containing some phlogiston. With the nitrous acid our author could not entirely deprive iron of the coagulating phlogiston, or that quantity which is necessary to change the radical earth into metallic calx.

The last subject in this dissertation is magnetism. Nickel, manganese, and cobalt, seem in some degree magnetic; and
from

from some late experiments in this country, it has been suspected that brass possesses the same quality, but it probably arises from some iron in the calamine with which it is prepared. We may, perhaps, see a public account of these experiments*. Bergman's object was to enquire, whether the attracted particles were really iron, and consequently native metal, though without the metallic appearance. He found that a calx which obeyed the influence of the magnet, was really worse, or contained less phlogiston, than even crude iron, much less than wrought iron. A certain quantity of this principle, but less than is required to reduce it to its true metallic form, is necessary before it will be attracted; in this state too it may be made itself magnetical. Our author adds, that he has not been able to extract from colcothar of vitriol, calcined with a powerful heat, a magnetic powder, either with spirit of vitriol, as Lemery is said to have done, or with spirit of nitre, in the method mentioned by Muschenbroek.

The next subject of Bergman's enquiry is into the nature of cold short iron. The examination is conducted with great judgment, and with strict logical precision; but our author errs in two points, the one by too hastily concluding from an experiment with a very small quantity, that no acid is the cause; and, secondly, by thinking that nothing can combine with a metal but a metal. The white calx, lately mentioned, is the cause of the peculiarity, and is now pretty certainly known to be phosphorated iron. Meyer and Klaproth first discovered the nature of this white matter, and we may add, that very lately Mr. Scheele has confirmed their experiments in a new way. He boiled the pretended siderum with a fixed alkali, and decomposed the phosphorated alkali by nitrated mercury. From Bergman's errors let every chemist learn to be diffident.

The dissertation on metallic acids is in many respects curious. The particular properties of metals do not seem to depend on the peculiarity of the coagulating or reducing phlogiston, but on that of their calces. The dephlogistication of arsenic, and the acid nature of white arsenic, seems to have given the first hint; this was confirmed by the analysis of molybdæna. When this substance is separated from its phlogiston, it discovers the following properties. Its specific gravity is to that of distilled water as 3.460, while the gravity of the arsenical acid is as 3.750: its taste is acid and metallic, which seems to show that it is not completely purified; one grain of the calx is suspended by 570 grains of distilled water; and the solution changes the tincture of turnsol to a red colour, and precipitates sulphur, from a solution of hepar: each quality shows its acid nature. The solution of the calx is precipitated

* At the time when this article was written, Mr. Cavallo's Experiments were not published. They will be noticed, particularly, very soon.

of a reddish brown colour, by phlogisticated alkali and tincture of galls; when distilled with three times its quantity of sulphur, the molybdæna is restored, and the vitriolic acid thrown off in a phlogisticated state. With a blow-pipe it tinges microcosmic salt of an elegant green: borax joined with it, so as to form glass, looks black with reflected light, and obscurely violet by transmitted rays.

In our review of Bergman's *Sciagraphia* we mentioned, that M. Hjelm had reduced the lapis ponderosus. This stone is supposed by our author to be calcareous earth, joined with a new acid, and this acid to be capable of combining with phlogiston so as to form a metal. The acid base greatly resembles that of molybdæna, in specific gravity, which is as 3.600; in its solubility in water, one grain being suspended by 20 grains of boiling water; in its colouring the tincture of turnsol, and precipitating sulphur. It resembles arsenic in being precipitated white by phlogisticated alkali; sulphur distilled with it is black. Microcosmic salt in fusion with it is blue, which by transmitted light is not red, like glass of cobalt: with a large proportion of acid it is brown, and at last black; borax does not make a glass equally blue. That the basis of siderite will show an acid nature, does not support Bergman's argument, though adduced for that purpose. To the foregoing experiments may be added those on plumbago, whose acid basis is better known in its aerial form, by the title of fixed air; and we may, in support of the same opinion, give a somewhat more particular account of the experiments of M. Haffenfratz. He poured spirit of nitre on tin, till the acid was no longer decomposed; and having poured distilled water on the remainder, it was perceived to be slightly acid. This acid, as well as that which arose at the end of the distillation, he calls the acid of tin. When saturated with alkali, no precipitation ensued; the salt did not fuse by heat, and the only result was nitre, or the acid of tin and alkali. Taught by a hint from Lavoisier, he procured, in the same way, what he calls the acid of iron. M. Hermstadt of Berlin also informed M. Crell, that he had, in a similar way, procured the acid of tin. We have given these experiments as fully as we have received them, and we own with many doubts about the accuracy of the conclusions. The Spanish chemists, in their Analysis of Wolfran, have taught us the necessity of hesitating till many experiments, by different chemists, shall have decidedly pointed out the same conclusions.

We must now leave M. Bergman for a moment of more leisure: we shall return to him with much pleasure.

MONTHLY CATALOGUE.

M E D I C A L.

The present Practice of Surgery. By Robert White, M. D. 8vo. 6s. Johnson.

DR. White has collected, from the most approved authors, the present methods of treating wounds, and of performing operations in surgery; but he is not a collector only: in many instances he informs us of the result of his own observations, and his own methods. The subject is, however, much too extensive to be confined within the limits of an octavo volume: it must be frequently defective, sometimes imperfect, and generally unsatisfactory. We have in more than one passage observed defects of considerable importance, which will render this book an unsafe guide, even for the youngest practitioners: it is, at best, calculated for a sudden reference, when the recollection is much disturbed, or to give the student the outline of a science, which must be carefully filled up before he attempts to decide from himself. Dr. White disapproves of the too general method of trepanning for fractures of the skull, and adduces his reasons at a length little proportioned to the space allowed for some of the most important operations. His method of proceeding, without the assistance of the operation, is by the free use of the lancet, and the antiphlogistic treatment. In one case he mentions two bleedings; in others he does not mention that any blood was drawn. The term antiphlogistic regimen is also vague: we should suspect that the author does not include purging, because he once mentions also an enema. There is frequently a want of precision in his directions, and his relations of cases, which leads us to doubt of his being an actual observer; for, in wounds of the head, the bleedings must be unusually large, and very often repeated, if we would supersede the necessity of the operation: and, as soon as the patient can swallow, the most active purgatives should be administered. Previous to that period the glysters should be of the most stimulating kind. We have selected this subject, as a specimen of imperfections: in some other instances, our author is as explicit as his limits will allow.

Some formulæ are added at the end, which are not always of the neatest kind: particularly the liniment made by adding tinct. thebaic. to camphor dissolved in oil; for a separation immediately ensues. To direct a saline draught to be made with *elixir vitrioli*, when lemons are not to be procured, is an error both of the chemical and medical nature.

A Treatise on Cancers, with an Account of a new and successful Method of operating, particularly in Cancers of the Breast or Testis. By Henry Fearon. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Johnson.

In our 59th volume, p. 156, we reviewed the first edition of this work. The second is greatly enlarged, not only by the

addition of some medical remarks, respecting the cure of cancers, but by a number of cases which have occurred to the author, or been communicated to him by other practitioners. On the whole, we think the work greatly improved, and the additional trials render our author's method more certainly advantageous.

In our account of the first edition, we observed that cancers were more frequently local complaints than had been suspected. This passage has, we find, been mistaken, and represented as if we thought them always local. We have been too frequently witnesses of their melancholy ravages to be of that opinion. They certainly are sometimes general diseases; but, except when these swellings have appeared on the cessation of general disorders, they are in their early periods commonly local. At that time the operation will often succeed, and, in that state, we wish it was more frequently practised. — We shall select one passage, to remove a difficulty which has contributed to prevent our author's method from being more frequently employed.

‘In all my practice, I have not had one case, nor have I ever seen one, where there was not skin sufficient to cover the wound, and unite by the first intention, except where caustics had been long and repeatedly employed. I am confident the following cases are worse than those that generally occur in practice, yet in every one of them, the union by the first intention succeeded, though in some instances the diseased mass, together with a large portion of the skin, had, in the former operation, been removed. In some cases the ulcer is so large, that, on the first view, one would be apt to think that the edges of the skin could hardly be brought into contact, after having taken away so considerable a portion of it, by including the ulcer in a double incision. But as there was a considerably less extent of surface to be covered after the diseased tumor was removed than before, there was skin fully sufficient for the purpose.’

Dr. Milman's Animadversions on the Nature and Cure of Dropsy, translated from the Latin into English, by F. Swediaur, M. D. 8vo. 3s. Dodsley.

This translation will be an acceptable present to many of the faculty: the original has already been noticed in our Journal, so that we need not enlarge on its merits. The present version was undertaken, we are told, on account of the scarcity of the Latin copies, and the little probability of a new edition.

Dr. Swediaur has executed his task with correctness, rather than elegance. Many passages are deformed by a Latin idiom, and the language is rendered very stiff by the translator's treading, with a studied anxiety, in the foot-steps of his original.

Observe

Observations on the Use of crude Mercury, or Quicksilver; in Obstructions of the Bowels. With Remarks on the Use of Castor Oil. By A. S. Nevins. 8vo. 1s. 6d. Baldwin.

The cases are too few, to establish an exploded, a generally useless, and we fear a frequently hurtful practice. We allow, with Mr. Nevins, that it seems sometimes to have succeeded; but he will reflect that, in spasmodic affections, when the strength decays, the spasm is often suddenly resolved, without any medicine. We see it strikingly in ileus, perhaps more so in spasmodic asthma and peripneumonies; and these sudden changes have given a temporary credit to many useless medicines. The castor oil is often a weak minister in obstinate obstructions; but M. Nevins calls in the assistance of more active means, though he frequently trusts the oil farther than its real utility may allow. The practice detailed, in these pages, is frequently decisive and judicious. — It is highly probable that, if the same plans had, in the cases related, been followed more closely, our author would not have required the use of this precarious remedy.

We meet with an apology for literal errors: they are indeed very numerous; and they occur in some very important passages, where a beginner may be easily misled: page 34. oz. vi. of Glauber's salt in a draught, instead of *drach. vi.* is an error too gross for even candour to forgive. It is not a *literal* one.

Experiments and Observations on the Danger of Copper and Bell Metal in Pharmaceutical and Chemical Preparations. By William Blizard, F. A. S. 8vo. 1s. Dilly.

That a rough powder may abrade some particles of a bell-metal mortar in powdering, we well know; and that this quantity may be pernicious, is supposed rather than proved. Mr. Blizard recommends iron mortars: of iron then let them be made; but, in this drudgery of science, in detailing observations so trivial, and level with the surface, we hope not again to see a man of real merit employed. We cannot even commend the execution: perhaps, in the hurry of a precarious profession, little time could be allowed for the composition.

P O E T R Y.

Matlock; a farewell descriptive Poem. 4to. 1s. Baldwin.

Little more need be said of this poem than that it may be classed with those numberless productions, in which

————— 'pure description holds the place of sense.'

Many passages in it are pretty, but none peculiarly excellent. As 'a trifle' it is offered to the world, and as such will be considered.

Miscellaneous Poetry. By Mrs. West. 4to. 2s. Swift.

Mrs. West professes herself a candidate for literary fame, and promises, if the specimen of her abilities here produced should

meet with applause, to publish a larger work : if disapproved, she consoles herself with the reflection, that 'morality and religion will receive no injury by her attempt.' To the moral tendency of these poems we are willing to bear testimony ; of their success, so far as they will entitle the author to any great degree of celebrity, we have no very sanguine expectations, but much less that they will do her any discredit. From the concluding lines of an elegy, entitled Edward and Harriet, the reader may form no inadequate idea of their merit in general. The story on which it is founded, is briefly this. Edward, a young man of fashion, contracted to Harriet, whose situation in life was much inferior to his own, knowing her great prepossession in his favour, endeavours to seduce her. He is repulsed, and to make atonement for his offence,

‘ He vow’d next morn, the nuptial knot to tie,
 And gain’d forgiveness from the yielding maid.
 He went the promis’d nuptials to prepare,
 Exulting secret in the low born jest ;
 Bright rose the sun, then soon th’ expecting fair,
 In gay attire her beauteous person drest.
 On him she mus’d, whilst he, perfidious man,
 A noble virgin to the altar led ;
 From ear to ear their pomp and splendor ran ;
 She hear’d, and bow’d her uncomplaining head,
 Alone she breath’d each agonizing sigh ;
 Conceal’d affliction faded every grace ;
 Soon the bright sapphire left her hollow eye,
 And death’s cold mantle veil’d her lovely face.
 Edward ! ’twas thou, that burst the bars of time,
 And shew’d the maid, the regions of the tomb ;
 ’Twas thou, regardless of its early prime,
 That cropp’d the opening rose-bud’s vernal bloom !
 May her wrong’d image all thy joys infest !
 May conscience chill thee with infernal fears !
 What now avails to beat thy perjur’d breast,
 And wet her grave with penitential tears ?
 O flow’r of flow’rs ! that never knew’st compeer ;
 Go, in the skies, thy native climate blow :
 No wintry storms thy tender frame shall fear ;
 But safely through immortal summers grow,
 O kindred shade ! permit a rural maid
 To hang this off’ring on thy silent tomb ;
 There should the myrtle spread her fragrant shade,
 There deathless am’ranth elegantly bloom.
 Soft sleep thy dust ! where love no more invades ;
 Where falsehood charms not, and where beauty dies ;
 Where all the tinsel shew of grandeur fades,
 Soft sleep thy dust ! till Jesu bid thee rise !’

Alnwick's

Alnwick's Condolence; a Pastoral Elegy, in Memory of the late most noble Hugh, Duke of Northumberland, &c. By Henry Lucas, A. M. 4to. 1s. Doddsley.

This Dialogue between the Genius of Alnwick, alias 'the recording angel of his grace,' and his friends, Fidor and Theron, contains many passages of a very peculiar nature, as the following speech of the latter will abundantly testify.

'O rueful sight! behold! how lost to sense,
The millions stand, suspended by suspense!
Like Niobe, converted as to stone,
And only answering to each others moan!
The genius chief, the lifeless food of tears,
Lost in the bitterness of thought appears!
Prescience bespeaks the anguish that is nigh,
And his soul answers with according sigh!

We are apt to suspect that the author was one of the Millions, and has not recovered his 'sense.' The unfortunate Genius appears in the same predicament. He had been, if we understand the passage right, 'steep'd in misery' for ten years together, on account of the good duchess being gone to heaven; and now—But let the reader judge:

'Ten years alas! long tale of human grief,
Where boundless Charity supplied relief!
Ten years, alas! long injury, and woe,
For which our tears did mutually o'erflow;
Since to immortal bliss our Duchesses fled!
And now—Northumberland himself is dead!

Was ever any distress like this!

Henry and Acasto: a Moral Tale. By the Rev. Brian Hill, A. M. With a Preface, by Sir Richard Hill, Bart. Small 8vo. 1s. Stockdale.

Sir Richard Hill, the editor, informs us 'that the author of the poem was totally ignorant of its being sent abroad into the world. It was by mere accident that I first got a transient sight of it, and not till after repeated requests that I obtained a copy of it; and had I then intimated the most distant wish of printing it, (particularly with his name annexed), I know that his great humility and diffidence would never have permitted him to let me have it in my possession: but as I feel conscious, that, whilst I render a service to the public, I do him no discredit, I venture to send it out in its native simplicity.'—How far his brother will approve of Sir Richard's zeal we cannot determine. That he publishes it upon the best of principles, we are fully convinced; upon the idea of its superior excellency, and the probability of its conducing to correct the taste, and improve the mind. To this purport the worthy baronet expresses himself in his Preface; and, though fraternal affection has certainly led him to estimate too highly the merits of this performance,

we

we are willing to allow that some passages, both descriptive and moral, are entitled to approbation.

While we are yet writing, the third edition appears with corrections, alterations, and additions by the author. Mr. Hill seems now to allow of the publication, though, if he designed alterations and additions no more important than those which we perceive, Sir Richard's eagerness to publish the Tale has not been very injurious to his fame.

The Mirror; a Poem. 4to. 1s. Debrett.

A Mirror which reflects nothing but the image of dulness, and the reverse of poetical merit.

Folly Triumphant. 4to. 1s. Robinsons.

The title of this production is fully exemplified in the author's ridiculous pretensions to the character of a poet.

D R A M A T I C.

The Widow's Vow. A Farce, in two Acts, as it is acted at the Theatre-Royal, Hay-Market. 8vo. 1s. Robinsons.

The plot of this farce is taken confessedly from the French stage, and it is conducted with great spirit, propriety, and pleasantry. It is wholly within the province of farce, and should not be tried on the stricter statutes of the drama. A young widow has vowed to shut herself up from the sight of every man. The reason of this fatal resolution is, a disappointment which will appear singular only to a romantic girl: she was indulged in marrying the man of her choice, though greatly her inferior; and this fancied miracle became an intolerable husband. Her neighbour Donna Isabella resolved, notwithstanding the vow, to procure the widow for her brother, who is represented as somewhat of a coxcomb, and apparently effeminate, from his attention to dress. With this view, the countess is alarmed with an account of a plot; that it is designed to introduce Isabella in men's cloaths, to gain her affections, and render her afterwards an object of ridicule. In hopes of retaliating on Isabella, when the marquis, Isabella's brother, is introduced as a neighbour, she receives him with great pleasure. The servants, who suppose him to be the lady in disguise, are eager in observing his manners and behaviour, while the marquis, who is unacquainted with the plot, is surprised at the unexpected good humour of the countess, and the peculiar conduct of her servants. The consequence may be easily guessed at, and the farce concludes with an observation from the lady's uncle, that there is but one vow which a widow should make, 'a vow to love, honour, and obey.'—We sincerely join in the same opinion; and, when we express our sense of the pleasure we have received from this truly comic sketch, would not neglect to enforce its moral.

Seeing

Seeing is Believing: a Dramatic Proverb of one Act, as performed at the Theatre-Royal, in the Hay-Market. 1s. Lowndes.

This trifle entertained us in the exhibition, but to the stage it should have been confined. The whole is too improbable, the principal incident too grossly farcical to please, even for a moment, in the closet. It is, however, published 'to add still farther credit to the performers.' We have no objection to the plea, if it will not induce others to offend in the same way, or to commit the still greater sin of publishing.

'Poets lose half the praise they would have got,
Were it but known what they discreetly blot.'

Songs, Duets, and Trios, in the Siege of Curzola. 8vo. 6d. Cadell.

In judging of the songs in a dramatic production, regard ought always to be had, not only to the characters who recite them, but to the situations in which they are introduced. But without the knowledge of these circumstances, which are not at present submitted to our observation, we cannot hesitate to admit, that the stanzas on the Spanish Armada are in a strain of poetry well suited to the subject.

N O V E L S.

The History of Count Gleichen; a German Nobleman, who received Permission from Pope Gregory IX. to have Two Wives at the same Time. Translated from the French of Arnaud. 12mo. 3s. Hookham.

The count, a celebrated warrior in the plains of Palestine, during the absurd attempts of the crusaders, was taken prisoner by the sultan of Egypt, whose daughter rescued him from slavery, and accompanied him in his flight. He told her that he was married; but, educated in the East, she felt no objection from that consideration. On her arrival with him in Germany, she became a Christian, and her new principles, and the laws of the country which had adopted her, contributed to prevent the additional union; but a dispensation from the pope, with the consent of Alice, the first wife, cleared up all the difficulty, and the count alone became a husband of two wives by the laws of the church. This is the story told by different historians, and adopted by Bayle and Moreri. It contains, however, some suspicious materials; but M. Arnaud thinking it, perhaps, a proper vehicle for sentiments, and ideal distress, has made it the subject of his novel. To accumulate the difficulties, he has supposed, that Zelida follow Gleichen, without knowing of his marriage; and that, after the dispensation, Zelida would not admit him to her bed: other circumstances are added with the same view. In short, this is a modern sentimental novel, plentifully adorned with ahs! and ohs! with little real pathos, and less interest. Alice at last dies, in a fortu-

a fortunate moment; fortunate for Gleichen, for the reader, and supremely fortunate for the reviewer.

Appearance is against them; a Novel, in a Series of Letters. By the Author of Emily Herbert. 2 Vols. 12mo. 5s. sewed. Jones.

Emily Herbert, or Perfidy punished; a Novel, in a Series of Letters. By the Author of Appearance is against them. 3 Vols. 7s. 6d. sewed. Jones.

It would be wrong to separate these conjoined supports of the author's mighty fame; for we can truly say, that we have never seen any thing so flimzy as the first, except the second;—we have never seen any work more ridiculous and uninteresting than Emily Herbert, if it be not Appearance is against them.

Tales, Romances, Apologues, Anecdotes, and Novels; humorous, satiric, entertaining, historical, tragical, and moral. Two Vols. 12mo. 6s. sewed. Robinsons.

These Tales are translated from the French, and the translator hopes, that 'while they amuse the mind they will not debase the heart.' We have read them with much pleasure; but more than one is the work of the last age, in a modern dress; though this is not mentioned to lessen their merit, nor ought it to have that effect. The Tales of the chevalier Florian are well told, and are frequently no less instructive than entertaining: the Apologues of the abbé Blanchet are very elegant, and contain useful lessons. Though apparently an easy task, we know of none in which it is so difficult to succeed. The Anecdotes from de la Place are often very interesting, though probably not always true. In short, we have not lately read any work which engages the attention, amuses and informs the mind, with so much success. If we prefer the fourth Apologue for a selection, it is only on account of its shortness.

'The favourite of a sultan threw a stone at a poor dervise who had requested an alms. The insulted santon dared not to complain, but carefully searched for and preserved the pebble, promising himself he should find an opportunity sooner or later to throw it in his turn, at this imperious and pitiless wretch. Some time after, he was told, the favourite was disgraced, and by order of the sultan led through the streets on a camel, exposed to the insults of the populace. On hearing this, the dervise ran to fetch his pebble; but, after a moment's reflection, cast it into a well. I now perceive, said he, that we ought never to seek revenge when our enemy is powerful, for then it is imprudent; nor when he is involved in calamity, for then it is mean and cruel.'

The editor attacks M. de la Place with great propriety, and a becoming indignation, for admitting into his collection of *Pieces interessantes*, an impertinent and unjust criticism on the novel of Tom Jones, chiefly to recommend his own mutilated transla-

translation of it. Though the editor has really stepped out of his way to bestow this castigation, yet as Englishmen, as admirers, almost idolaters of Fielding's chief work, we must commend him with equal justice. He condemns the credulity of de la Place, in publishing the ridiculous story, that Hogarth drew the picture of Fielding from Garrick's personating his Ghost. But it is time to conclude; and our last words shall be those of the editor, to convey his own apology.

'We must likewise remark, we have occasionally departed from the text. If we thus have enfeebled the tale, if by interpolation we have injured the work, we are undoubtedly guilty, and must so be pronounced from the just tribunal of unbiassed criticism. Should an indictment like this be preferred, we shall willingly plead, because we hope to prove our innocence. We have sometimes wilfully departed from the author, but our intent, at least, has been good, and we trust to the liberality of our readers not to be accused of ignorance precisely there, where we imagine we are most deserving of praise.'

M I S C E L L A N E O U S.

Eternity of the World. By G. H. Toulmin, M. D. 8vo. 2s. 6d. Cadell.

This is an old book with a new title. It was reviewed in our 50th volume, page 34, and was then called the Antiquity of the World; but it was not sufficient for Dr. Toulmin to make the World old, it must be even eternal. We may add also, that we perceive a few leaves have been cancelled, though without any material change, for some chemical errors are continued in the new pages.

In a former volume, we gave a pretty full account of the work, so that we need not repeat it. We did not reprehend its pernicious tendency very strongly, because we would not disseminate errors by our reproofs: besides, we perceived it to be the work of a young man, eager to be distinguished, and to display what may have appeared to inexperienced eyes, a noble generous independence. At present, the poison glares undisguised in the title; and we find that age, instead of adding wisdom, has only fixed the roots of folly too deep to be removed by reason or advice. The dissertation is a declamatory performance, full of mistakes both in natural and civil history, as well as in chemistry, without one solid argument to invalidate the chronology of Moses. The different observations of these philosophical sceptics have been too often noticed by ourselves and others, to induce us for a moment longer to dwell on the subject.

A Short Essay on the Propagation and Dispersion of Animals and Vegetables. 12mo. 1s. 6d. Wilkie.

This Essay, though short, is filled chiefly by transcripts from Mr. Jackson's Letters, and the different works of Mr. Ray. There are parasite plants in literature, which derive their sole

confe-

consequence and support from the trees to which they are attached. As the author seems to have aimed at attracting attention under such auspices, we shall charitably leave him to draw what nourishment he can, without enlarging on his numerous mistakes and misapprehensions.

A Series of Prints of Scripture History, designed as Ornaments for those Apartments in which Children receive the first Rudiments of their Education. 10d. Marshall.

A Description of a Set of Prints of Scripture History; contained in a Set of Easy Lessons. 4d. Marshall.

These little volumes are intended as the preludes of a larger set, containing representations and explanations of universal history. We are pleased with the plan, and, in general, with the execution. The explanations are clear and explicit, the situations well chosen, and the prints executed with sufficient neatness. In one or two instances the engraver seems to have mistaken the proper dresses.

An Explanation of the Case relating to the Capture of St. Eustatius. 8vo. 1s. Stockdale.

This pamphlet is published with the view of affording information to all who are concerned in the capture of St. Eustatius; that they may understand who are really responsible, and of whom they ought to demand an explanation. It includes the several commissions, appointing the agents to manage the business of the capture; and points out to the captors the most effectual methods to obtain relief, and to secure to them what remains of the captured property.

An Essay on Parish Work-houses. By Edmund Gillingwater. 8vo. 1s. Robinsons.

We find, from the title-page of this Essay, that the author is overseer of the poor at Harleston, in Norfolk. He appears, indeed, to be well acquainted with the subject of which he treats; and his observations concerning it are extremely judicious. He remarks, and we believe with great truth, that parish work-houses, as now generally conducted, seldom correct the morals of those who inhabit them. He likewise censures the management of our English work-houses, in the great neglect of educating the children, which is doubtless an omission of the most pernicious tendency. Another object of reprehension, is the want of cleanliness. Mr. Gillingwater very justly considers cleanliness as not less necessary towards forming virtuous dispositions in the mind, than as conducive to the health and refreshment of the body; and in this, as well as in several other articles, he shews the superiority of the work-houses in foreign nations to those of this country. Two other evils which this author mentions relative to work-houses, are, the want of discipline and good order, and the inconsiderate appointment of govern-

nors. In the subsequent part of the essay, he proposes some remarks and regulations for the improvement of work-houses, and the proper management of them. We shall only add, that this pamphlet is highly worthy the attention of all those who are desirous of promoting the police of this country, by a reform of the work-houses, at present extremely ill-conducted for the purposes of public utility.

The Servant's Friend, an exemplary Tale; designed to enforce the religious Instructions given at Sunday and other Charity Schools, by pointing out the practical Application of them in a State of Servitude. By Mrs. Trimmer. 12mo. Price 9d. or 8s. per Dozen to give away. Johnson.

This exemplary Tale is designed to enforce the religious instructions given at Sunday and other Charity Schools, by pointing out the practical application of them in a state of servitude. The narrative contains the history of a young man, in a low station, from his childhood to his marriage; exhibiting a pattern of filial piety, reverence for religion, and general rectitude of conduct. In a word, the best example is held forth to the notice of those in similar stations; and the Tale, which is conducted in a natural manner, affords every incitement to imitation. The whole is founded upon the principle, that Christian knowledge is liberally dispensed to the poor by means of Sunday schools; and that the encouragement of this institution must tend greatly to the improvement of morals among people in the lower class of life. This Tale is, in our opinion, well calculated for instilling good principles into the children of the poor; and as such, it might be distributed amongst them with great advantage to society.

The Beauties of the British Senate. 2 Vols. 10s. 6d. in Boards. Stockdale.

Compiled from the Debates of the Lords and Commons, from the beginning of the administration of sir Robert Walpole to the second session of the administration of the right hon. W. Pitt. By a kind of chemistry lately introduced, the art of extracting beauties is now become a capital resource of authorship. Scarce any sort of production is exempted from the depredations of those plagiarists, who, being guided by little taste, and great avidity, are likely to extend their researches over every province of literature, even the most insignificant.

A new Experiment for the Prevention of Crimes. By J. Z. Howell, F. R. S. 8vo. 1s. Cadell.

For the preventing of crimes this author proposes, that the king should institute an order of virtue, as an honourable badge of distinction; that it should be conferred on all such persons as should deserve it by their conduct in life; and that the insignia of it should be a gold medal, to be worn suspended from the

the outer garment. To find out the proper objects for this distinction, he farther proposes, that the grand juries should be obliged to present the good and the bad at the several assizes; that the judges be there empowered to confer this honour on some; to praise others publicly in the face of the court, and in their presence; and, at the expence of the state, relieve others, who should be thought to stand in need of assistance. These are the principal outlines of the plan suggested by Mr. Holwell, who seems to be well qualified by his legislative ingenuity for a distinguished place in Utopia.

The Northern Hera; being a faithful Narrative of the Life, Adventures, and Deceptions, of James George Semple, commonly called Major Semple. 8vv. 1s. Kearsley.

In the variety of frauds and villainies, and the ingenuity of deceit, James George Semple seems to rival the celebrated Charles Price. According to this narrative, Semple was born about the year 1756, at Irvine, in the shire of Ayr. His father, who had formerly been a tide-water, lately laid claim to the title of lord viscount Lisle, a Scottish peerage, which had become *extinct* in 1547. Young Semple is described as a man of a genteel appearance and address. He appears to have been early initiated in vicious habits, which he has cultivated through a series of years. The anecdotes recorded of him, in these memoirs, are too numerous for us to detail; but they exhibit the progress of artifice in such various forms, though not perhaps entirely unprecedented, as may serve as so many cautions to avoid the snares of imposition. Exclusive of the gratification of curiosity, this is the principal, and undoubtedly a most useful object, of the memoirs of such personages as major Semple, alias major Harrold, alias major Maxwell, alias major Grant, &c. &c. Prefixed to the narrative, is a print of this versatile hero.

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E.

We were a little surpris'd at the Letter from the Gentleman who translated Coluthus. We are indeed much obliged to him for his very polite attention, and have no objection to publish his disavowal 'in the most serious manner,' of being indebted to Congreve. We are sorry that a passage, undesignedly equivocal, should have given him uneasiness. We must beg leave to assure him, in our turn, in the most serious manner, that the theft was from Coluthus, and the culprit pointed at, Congreve. If our correspondent had not been tremblingly alive to the slightest circumstance, which could have affected his literary credit, we think that, on a second reading, he would have discovered our meaning.

